

THE Nonconformist.

THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION.

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Eccelesiastical Affairs.

"SAFEGUARDS."

THE Marquis of Salisbury is unhappy. He yearns to extend to Dissenters all the advantages of the national Universities. He recognises the substratum of religious truth upon which their faith ultimately rests, and is quite willing that they should receive, in common with Churchmen, "the sweetness and light" which such institutions can confer. But then, how about "religious teaching"? The conflict of opinion and sympathy, in the present day, is not between Anglicans and Nonconformists, but between Christians and Infidels. What "safeguards" can be devised to secure Christian teaching at Cambridge and Oxford? The very same gate which is opened to admit and welcome Dissenting graduates will unfortunately be open, at the same time, to sceptical fellows—and pious Dissenters would, of course, deprecate the teaching of "negative theology" under the venerable sanction of these ancient and learned corporations. "What I dread more than anything else," said Lord Salisbury, on the motion for the second reading of the Universities Tests Bill in the House of Lords, on Thursday last, "is that at an age when the character is unformed, the passions strong, and the convictions unsettled, young men going to the Universities should find college set against college, and professor against professor, with reference to the deepest mysteries of the Christian faith, and all the things they had been accustomed to regard with reverence, and all the restraining truths of religion, called in question every hour of the day."

It is very kind in the Marquis of Salisbury, and, in his own judgment, no doubt, very befitting his intimate relations to Christianity, that, smitten with an earnest desire to preserve purity of religious teaching in our great intellectual seminaries, he should be willing to sacrifice other people's prospects of advantage. It is most edifying to observe the recent warmth with which some people concede to Dissenters privileges they insisted until now upon withholding, and the suddenness with which, for the sake of religion, they resume possession of what they had just yielded. Christianity owes, no doubt, a world of thanks to the noble lord, for the somewhat fussy consideration with which he sees fit to treat her, and many who love Christianity as well as he are astonished that he cannot trust his faith an inch out of his

sight. We would be among the last to insinuate that the piety of the noble marquis is inseparable from his political exclusiveness, or that his concern for the honour of Divine revelation has been generally expressed by the restrictions he has imposed upon the consciences of others. But we beg to submit to his manly common-sense, not for our sakes, but for his own, that, in the days of its infancy, Christianity could breathe the atmosphere of Paganism without being overpowered by its intellectual fumes, and that if at this time of day it cannot hold its own in our colleges without erecting fences for the exclusion of free thought and liberty of teaching, it has fallen upon very degenerate times. Possibly, the admission of Nonconformists to the teaching power, and its accompanying honours and emoluments, in the two ancient Universities will impart a freshness and vigour of religious life into these bodies which will more than counteract the deadening influences of unfettered doubt, and will help to exorcise the demon which the noble Earl is apprehensive lest Liberalism should exalt to supreme authority.

Such thoughts as the above floated on the surface of our mind as we read the speech made by the Marquis of Salisbury on Thursday last. We are not sure that they are not altogether misplaced. So far as that speech presented any serious argument, it was more than answered by the Archbishop of York, and by the Bishops of Oxford and Exeter. But did the noble mover of the amendment really care more for the sentiment it expressed, or for the political victory which, by means of that sentiment, he succeeded in obtaining? We should not like to decide the question of motives. There may be a sense in which Lord Salisbury believes that "it is essential to provide by law proper safeguards for the maintenance of religious instruction and worship, and for the religious character of the education to be given therein," before he can see his way clear to "enable persons not members of the Church of England to hold offices to which they are not now eligible in the Universities of Oxford, Cambridge, and Durham, and the colleges and halls in those universities." But we very much doubt whether he expected a discussion so damaging to his position, to be raised on the platform he had provided for it; and, still more strongly whether, after having won a majority, he knows what to do with his victory. To drag a Committee after him in search of "safeguards," he and they being full well aware that nothing in the shape of legal safeguards can be devised but "tests," will be an ignoble as well as thankless enterprise, far more likely to inflict irreparable damage upon the House of Peers than upon the religious bodies whose members existing tests exclude from the rights and privileges which a successful University career freely bestows upon Churchmen. Does the noble Marquis regret the triumph he has achieved? Will a door of escape from the certain consequences of his own wilfulness be found for him, so as to let the Bill of Her Majesty's Government get unharmed through Parliament this Session? Technically, we understand, the thing is possible. Actually, and as a matter of fact, we are told by Mr. Gladstone, the thing is not beyond the region of possibility, nor, indeed, of hope. The public grows impatient. The Universities themselves are becoming apprehensive. The Sybil-

line leaves are being torn with ominous rapidity. The Lords themselves are not satisfied that their success is to be boasted of. The provision of a stronger measure next Session grows to more and more distinctness. There are not a few Radicals who will rejoice in another opportunity of abolishing clerical fellowships. After all, it is of more importance to laicize the Universities, and expel from them the spirit of ecclesiasticism, than to restore to Dissenters a part, even though it be a very valuable part, of their national rights.

A majority of fourteen peers affirmed the abstract proposition offered by Lord Salisbury in lieu of the second reading of the Bill—and a majority of sixteen agreed to refer the measure to a Select Committee. We shall see what will come of it. For our part, we prefer the sure prospect of a completer measure next Session, to the passing of the defective and qualified measure of this. But we shall not allow ourselves to be much concerned, however the question may be decided for the present. The tide flows steadily in, even when it seems to be momentarily resisted. Its pressure will be irresistible by-and-by. And when it becomes strong enough to sweep away the obstructions opposed to it by such men as the Marquis of Salisbury, it will be strong enough to remove with them many other unjustifiable things. The only question that concerns Nonconformists is, Whether they are to have less now, or wait for more patiently. Nobody knows this better than the Marquis of Salisbury—and when his temper cools, we should not be surprised at the reappearance of statesmanship in his proceedings. If he do not take care, however, his passionate wrongheadedness will upset the boat.

ECCLIASTICAL NOTES.

THE Census Bill for England and Wales was published yesterday, and it contains no provision for the collection of ecclesiastical statistics. This was expected; but, at the same time, it was not improbable that England and Wales should have been put in the same category with Scotland and Ireland. It can be understood, as we intimated some time since, why the Irish Roman Catholics should not object to an ecclesiastical enumeration. In regard to Scotland the case is not so clear. If we are rightly informed, the proposed ecclesiastical census in that country will be in the interests mainly of the Established Church. The Free Church has consented to it from indifference, and as a sort of sop to the Begg party in that body. The United Presbyterians have formally protested against it. The whole matter is one that is beyond the sphere of the civil Government. The *Echo* newspaper dealt with it yesterday evening in a very able article, in which the universally delusive character of all such returns was pointed out. This thought, for instance, was admirably put:—

Many of us, happily, hold our convictions as firmly as ever, but few are to be found who dream that their views embrace the whole circle of celestial knowledge, and still fewer who imagine that the sunlight of the Divine approval falls exclusively on their own limited vineyard, leaving all beside under the thunderous cloud of doom. Nay, beyond this, among thinking men there is a visible tendency to recede more and more from dogmatic assertion regarding the intellectual theorems of theology, and to insist on the purely Christian teaching as supremely important, while formularies are relegated to a secondary place, as chiefly valuable in so far as they sanction and guide the dictates of the conscience and the feelings of the heart. Under these circumstances, to call on the whole nation to pass through a sort of spiritual polling-booth would of itself be undesirable enough, compelling men to remember their sectarian differences, and enlisting the meaner interests of party on different sides, just as the progress

of events is causing the line of demarcation to become softened.

Beyond this, however, remains the fact, recognised equally by Churchmen and Dissenters, that no ecclesiastical census can be true. The social predominance of the Established Church prevents anything like a fair examination. While it is satisfactory to find that the Government does not propose such an examination in England and Wales, it is therefore extremely unsatisfactory that it should consent to take one in Scotland and Ireland. Why should it do so?

The Irish Presbyterians have just closed their annual assembly. Its proceedings have shown that there is still some life left in their Church. Money, for instance, has poured in in an unexpected degree, and on the whole, the money question seems to have been so paramount that we are half reminded, in reading the reports of the speeches, of some rather forcible observations in Mr. Thackeray's "Vanity Fair." The Moderator, for instance, closed the proceedings of the Synod with these words:—

I have no more to add, except this—about 400 ministers, as nearly as I am able at this moment to calculate, have already declared themselves ready to sign the communion deed, or have already signed it—(loud and prolonged applause)—and I have no manner of doubt that ere 1871 is ushered in there will not be many names of our ministers that will not appear in these parchment columns. At all this we are glad, and we give thanks to the God of grace that He has carried us through a great struggle with such triumphant success. This parchment, with its blue symbolic binding, will be preserved in the archives of Irish Presbyterianism as a perpetual memorial of your generosity, and as a new charter of Presbyterian life and progress in Ireland. This simply means that money has been secured for the Church of the present and the future. But did ever the exhibitor of "Vanity Fair" write a more sarcastic sentence than that spoken by the Moderator that, "At all this we are glad; and we give thanks to the God of grace that He has carried us through a great struggle with such triumphant success." And this great struggle is simply that the Legislature capitalised by Act of Parliament the incomes of the Irish ministry at so much, and that the capitalisation—there being no alternative—has been accepted. A remarkably great struggle! We shall be glad to hear when the Irish Presbyterians have something more for which to thank the God of grace than an Act which they were compelled to accept, and for something which related to a higher question than that of money.

Excepting the University Tests Bill the Ecclesiastical questions discussed in Parliament have been of small importance. The "Sites for Places of Worship Bill" has, wisely we think, been withdrawn. As regards schools, a part of its object is accomplished in the Education Bill, and there is no chance of more being done in the present Session. The Burials Bill went into Committee last Wednesday, when the first clause was, as much as could be in the time, very closely discussed. It was evident, however, that, as on a previous occasion, the most obstructive tactics would be pursued, and this turned out to be the case. The talk was continued until the hour for adjournment came, when the Committee was postponed to Monday night. Monday night came, and the measure stood at the end of scores of orders, and was postponed until Friday, which, we imagine, will be the last postponement. We should be fighting against time and self-respect if we were to continue to press this Bill, and, besides, we know very well that it contains some compromises which are extremely obnoxious to some of our friends. Those amongst our readers who have all along objected to it, may now rest satisfied. The measure will make no further progress this Session. Next Session they may possibly have one more agreeable to their sentiments.

But, also on Monday night, a Bill was brought forward, which, notwithstanding the language held by some Government officials, we had hoped was postponed, if not abandoned. With all the business behindhand, and on the very evening that the Government announced its withdrawal of most important public measures, Mr. Chichester Fortescue brought in his long-threatened "Glebe Loans (Ireland) Bill," the object of which is to amend the 1 and 2 Wm. IV., cap. 33, in part, and to "afford facilities for obtaining loans for the erection, enlargement, and improvement of glebe-houses, and for the acquirement of lands for glebes in Ireland." This measure was subsequently read a first time, and is now put down, in the most hasty manner, for a second reading to-morrow. While we write the Bill is not printed, and so we can say nothing as to its contents. We can, however, protest against such a measure being brought in at so late a period of the Session, and being hurried forward, as it evidently will be, with all the force of the Government, and without any time being given for legitimate opposition. The Bill is, on its face, a bad and immoral

Bill, and we regret most deeply that a Government such as that which passed the Irish Church Act should have concocted it, and should now be prepared to thrust it, with such suspicious haste, through the Legislature.

The advantage which the Established Church has procured by the Education Bill was very frankly stated at a Diocesan Conference, held at Stratford, in the diocese of Rochester, on Tuesday and Wednesday last. A great deal having been said—but rather too late now—concerning the rights of the laity, the Marquis of Salisbury introduced the question of the duty of members of the Church of England in the present state of the education question. The Marquis said upon this subject (and his speech is a fair indication of the line which he will take when the Education Bill is in the Lords),—

For many years it has been discussed whether a conscience clause would be a desirable measure, but now there are very few Churchmen who do not admit that in all schools aided by the State a conscience clause cannot possibly be avoided. (Cheers.) There is nothing in the Education Bill to alarm Churchmen or to give them much uneasiness. If we look at the general spirit which pervades it we shall find that, instead of uprooting all that that has gone before, and instead of dealing with the question in a revolutionary way, the Bill really develops the principles which have been carried out for the last twenty years, but applied in a rather different manner, and with greater vigour.

This is rather cool, considering that Lord Robert Cecil, now Marquis of Salisbury, was a determined opponent to the conscience clause, but what follows is as cool as it is emphatic:—

The resolution recognises in the present Church crisis the necessity of more zeal to enable the Church to maintain her position. (Cheers.) The existing schools must be maintained in a state of proficiency, and then no hostile party can bring into existence the competing system. (Cheers.) The Church has also to make an earnest effort to cut her way into the large and at present unexplored field, where ignorance has long been rank and rife. (Cheers.) This field is open to all, and the Church, with her influence and wealth, need not fear the result. With regard to the time-table conscience clause, my opinion is that it will give little difficulty. The parents are, if they please, at liberty to object to the teaching, but not to particular phrases. This gives me great satisfaction, as if the parents were at liberty to object to phrases, it might cause schoolmasters to tamper with the purity of their teaching. (Cheers.) But we, no doubt, owe a deep debt of gratitude to the Government for standing up as they have done so firmly against what can only be called unsectarian religion.

Coming as this does from the leader of the ultra-Tories of the House of Lords, we can see, still more plainly than we have seen, what is the tendency of the present measure. Looking at it through a High-Church Tory lens, we find that it is considered to be eminently favourable to High-Church Toryism.

We were scarcely aware until within a few days past, that there was such a society as the "Church Reform Society." Such a society, however, does exist, for it held its annual meeting last Wednesday, at its own offices, 17, Buckingham-street, Strand, and perhaps twenty-five persons were present. But, amongst the number, there singularly enough, does not occur the name of one archbishop, bishop, dean, archdeacon, canon, or prebendary. The speeches made in this small assembly were, however, worthy of a greater audience. The only striking thing in the report which we can notice is the statement that there are many recent evidences of a marked advance in the Church Reform movement; which may be the case, although the meeting itself gave small proof of it. The Hon. and Rev. G. V. Bligh, however, after referring to one or two measures that are familiar to our readers, considered that there was an absolute plethora of "Church reform." It is somewhat satisfactory to notice that Mr. Bligh went beyond Parliamentary measures. He said, for instance,—

What now weighed chiefly upon his own mind in connection with the question of Church Reform was the consideration that in the progressive age in which they lived the Church of England could not expect to maintain her ground as the Established Church of the land unless she faithfully represented the vast majority of the Christian people of this country. That was one important point. Another was, that there were some essential verities of the Christian faith which were not dependent upon time or upon the growth of particular denominations of Christians, but which depended upon truth itself, and which were never to be surrendered. He did not, of course, allude now to distinctive Church principles; what he referred to were those great principles which had been the common heritage of the great Christian bodies of this country since the Reformation, and which had been held in common by Presbyterians, Wesleyans, Congregationalists, and Baptists—truths like that of the Holy Trinity, the atonement of their blessed Saviour, the inspiration of the Holy Scriptures, and the work of the Holy Spirit, truths which formed the essential basis of Christianity, and which, he repeated, could never be surrendered. Having said this, he would remark that if they were earnest in desiring a real, national Church reform, and if they wished to secure the co-operation of the Nonconformists in their efforts to secure it, they must be prepared to remove certain stumbling-blocks in the way of such co-operation. Amongst these was that of ministerial orders, and he thought they must be prepared to admit Dissenting ministers who belonged to regularly consti-

tuted Churches upon a footing of equality with the clergy of the Church,—that they must be willing to recognise ordained Nonconformist ministers who held the great principles to which he had just alluded as real ministers no less than the clergy of the Established Church.

Of course, Nonconformists will feel extremely obliged to Mr. Bligh for his willingness to recognise their "orders," but they will be apt to say that the recognition is rather more than two hundred years too late. There was some talk, after this, of removing from the Prayer-book "every vestige of old Rome," and a series of resolutions was adopted in favour—first of a lawful establishment of religion, and secondly as follows,—

That the protracted growth of intelligent Protestant Nonconformity throughout this kingdom, the recent disruption of the National Protestant Church in Scotland, its recent disestablishment in Ireland, and its threatened disestablishment in Wales, coupled with the recent developments of unscripural teaching among the clergy in England, sufficiently evidence the fact that the existing system of the Reformed National Church requires reconsideration and further reform, according to the Divine standard of Holy Writ.

The next resolution advocated a complete inquiry into the constitution, &c., of the Established Church, "with a view to the removal of all purely human and needless barriers that hinder national conformity," &c., but we suppose this does not include any inquiry into the origin, nature, and grounds of a State Establishment of religion.

It is evidently, however, very unsafe to generalise upon the opinions of Churchmen. Notwithstanding the Act of Uniformity one Churchman will say one thing, and another the very opposite. Thus, at a Church Conference, held last week at Ely, the Bishop spoke in a most remarkable and unprecedented manner for a bishop, considering that it was on the question of Church and State, as follows:—

Some people tell us that the only thing which keeps us and the Nonconformists apart is the union between the Church and the State. I can hardly think that is all; but if it were all, much as I value the union between Church and State, I would even give that up if it could lead to a union of all Christians one with another. We don't find these words in capitals, but we should like to do so. Dr. Harold Browne is the first Bishop who has uttered such a sentiment. But we look at this Bishop's votes in Parliament, and we ask what is his sentimentality worth?

THE UNIVERSITY TESTS BILL.

In the main division of Thursday night the bishops voting for the bill were:—

| York, Archbishop | |
|--|------------|
| Exeter | Manchester |
| London | Oxford |
| For the Marquis of Salisbury's amendment there voted:— | |
| Bangor | Lichfield |
| Chichester | Lincoln |
| Ely | Llandaff |
| Gloucester | Rochester |
| Hereford | Salisbury |

It will be observed that the Bishop of Winchester was among the absentee prelates.

The following is a copy of a petition presented to the House of Lords by the Duke of Devonshire:—

The humble petition, &c., sheweth,
That your petitioner is a Dissenting minister who has been resident at Cambridge for eighteen years, and has had opportunities of acquaintance with Nonconformist members of the University possessed by few and surpassed by none, many of those gentlemen having been communicants at the chapel in which he is the minister.

That your petitioner declares of his own knowledge that the Nonconformist members of the University have been far above the average in morals and religion, which he attributes partly to the great attention paid to religious culture in the homes of respectable Dissenters, and partly to the fact that most of the Dissenters sent to the University are picked men.

That your petitioner therefore prays your Right Honourable House to reject the "amendment" proposed by the Marquis of Salisbury to the University Tests Bill, because that amendment tends to perpetrate the immorality of subscription, and to exclude from their due place and influence in the University the most religious of its alumni.

And your petitioner shall ever pray, &c.,
WILLIAM ROBINSON.

REVISION OF THE BIBLE.

(From the Times.)

The second session of the New Testament Company commenced on Wednesday. The sitting was held, as before, in the Jerusalem Chamber, and lasted about six hours. There was a full attendance, nearly all the members being present, including the Bishop of Gloucester (in the chair), the Bishop of Salisbury, and the Deans of Canterbury, Westminster, and Rochester. After prayers had been read by the chairman, he proceeded to offer a few introductory remarks, and among other things observed that what had taken place out of doors since the last meeting of the company would, he trusted, only tend to bind the company more closely together. The best spirit prevailed throughout the meeting. In the course of the sitting the Archbishop of Canterbury paid a short visit to the company, and expressed his great interest in the work in progress, and his best wishes for its success. This was his grace's first appearance in

public since his illness. Much of the time of the sitting was necessarily occupied in the consideration of certain matters of order and detail, including the subject of finance. A sub-committee was also appointed to attend particularly to the subject of marginal references, citations from the Old Testament, and parallel places in the New; and also to confer with the similar sub-committee of the Old Testament Company on these and other points. The following are the members of this sub-committee—the Rev. F. Scrivener, Dr. Roberts, the Rev. G. Vance Smith, and Professor Moulton. Considerable progress was made with the revision of the introductory chapters of St. Matthew.

The New Testament Company concluded their second session on Saturday, having sat three days, and more than six hours each day. The attendance was large, and the deepest interest was shown by all in the work, which is now proceeding steadily, and on principles which practice and experience are securely consolidating. The Bishop of Winchester presided for a short time on Thursday; for the rest of the time the chair was occupied by the Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol. The company has now separated for the summer, but will meet in the second week of October. Circulars have been prepared asking for subscriptions and donations for the work, the expenses of which, owing to the distances at which many of the members live from London, are very great.

THE INFALLIBILITY OF THE POPE VOTED.

It is telegraphed that the Council voted on Wednesday in favour of the Infallibility of the Pope by 450 ayes against 88 noes. There were 62 conditional votes.

A further telegram says:—"Six hundred and one fathers were present when the vote on the Infallibility dogma was taken. Many absent fathers were recalled in all haste by the Court of Rome, in order to diminish the numerical importance of the opposition. The general aspect of the assembly was much agitated. Forty-eight fathers gave votes of non-placet, including Cardinals Mathieu, Schwarzenburg, and Rauscher, and the Archbishops of Paris and Grenoble. Another meeting of the Council is to be held, with the object of reclaiming dissentient votes, after which the date of the next public sitting will be fixed."

There was a public sitting of the Council on Monday. The formal vote on the dogma of infallibility was taken, when 533 placets against two non-placets were recorded. The Constitution was proclaimed by the Pope, who pronounced a short allocution.

Cardinal Rauscher's organ, the *Volksfreund*, declares that the proclamation of the dogma of Papal Infallibility would be very prejudicial to the interests of the Church, both in Germany and in other countries. Count Beust has made proposals, with the concurrence of Count Potocki, for the re-introduction of the *placetum regium* to Count Andrassy, as Minister-President of the Hungarian Government.

The correspondent of the *Tablet* writes:—"About ten o'clock in the morning the return of all the bishops from St. Peter's told of some unusual proceedings. A number of French Catholics who were on the Piazza of the Minerva were unable to restrain their anxiety, and ventured to arrest the progress of one of the returning bishops and ask what had happened. 'The discussion is over, my friends,' he answered, 'and God has accomplished a great work and triumph for the Church this morning.' The news spread in all directions, and at the midday masses, and all through the afternoon, kneeling groups were to be seen round every altar in extraordinary numbers rendering thanks for the happy close of the struggle the Church has passed through. All through the day the general joy was evident in all classes, and one saw groups of eager and exulting faces at every angle of the Corso, friends and fellow-workers exchanging congratulations. 'The day of the Holy Ghost has dawned at last,' were the words overheard on all sides. 'I always said so,' I heard a French Zouave say to his fellow-soldiers as they were passing my window; 'all we have heard so far has been the tuning of the fiddles, and very discordant, *ma foi!* some of it has been. Now the *chef d'orchestre* has taken his place we shall have the *grande musique*.'"

The Roman correspondent of the *Allgemeine Zeitung* says that the French ambassador, M. de Banneville, has handed to Cardinal Antonelli a note from his Government relative to the occupation of Civita Vecchia by French troops. In this note the French Government states that it has been urgently requested by Italy and other Powers to put an end to the French occupation, and that before giving a definite answer to these demands the Duke of Gramont thinks it necessary first to consult the Holy See, as the most interested party, on the subject. He therefore invites Cardinal Antonelli to openly state whether there is any ground for fearing attacks on the integrity of the Papal territories in the event of a withdrawal of the French troops, in order that France may be enabled to take an accurate view of the situation, and regulate her policy in pending questions accordingly. To this Cardinal Antonelli replied that complete peace now reigns in all parts of the Papal States, and that the Papal Government has a force at its disposal which is more than sufficient both to prevent any disturbance of public peace in the interior of the country, and to repel all attempts at Garibaldian or Mazzinian invasions from without. The Cardinal concludes by observing that, although if the Papal territory were attacked either by regular troops or by volunteers directly or

indirectly supported by the Italian Government, they could be easily disposed of by the Papal militia, such a campaign could not fail to disturb the public peace, and thereby endanger the object of the French occupation. The Cardinal hopes that no such event will occur, even if France were to withdraw her troops, and that no serious danger to the peace of the Papal States and the security of the Holy Father is to be apprehended.

The Bishop of London, acting under medical advice, has determined to postpone the visitation of his diocese, which he had arranged to hold in the present year.

Sir R. Phillimore is to pronounce judgment on Saturday next in the case of Sheppard v. Bennett, in which the defendant, who is vicar of Frome, is accused of heresy.

The Judicial Committee, on Thursday, gave judgment in favour of another name to be substituted for that of Colonel Elphinstone, deceased, as promoter of the suit against the Rev. Mr. Purchase, of Brighton.

THE WESLEYAN CONFERENCE.—The 127th annual Conference of the ministers of the Wesleyan Methodist Connexion commenced on Thursday at Burslem. Preparations had been made for the reception of nearly 500 ministers, besides the laymen who attend from all parts of the country. It is understood that the united committee on education are in favour of leaving the religious instruction entirely in the hands of the teachers, and that no clergyman, minister, or member of any religious order should be eligible for the office of teacher. There will be seventy-three young ministers, who have itinerated three years, to be received into full connexion, and nearly as many candidates to be received into the ministry on probation. The selection of ministers to fill the vacancies in the "Legal Hundred," and the election of the president and secretary of the Conference, will take place on Tuesday, the 26th.

HARROW SCHOOL AND THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND.—Dr. Butler, head master of Harrow, writes to say that at that school no Catechism is taught in school hours, and it can hardly be said to be an "exclusively" Church school. He regrets the decision at which the Commissioners have arrived, and "if he could believe that such a test as the commissioners impose would be in existence ten years hence he should be compelled to regard it as a hindrance rather than a safeguard." Dr. Vaughan, late head master of Harrow, also says, in reply to the Public Schools Commission, that there is no doubt that in practice Harrow has been regarded as a Church of England school. "If," he adds, "I were asked, which I am not, to offer an opinion as to what, under the altered circumstances of this day, might with advantage be conceded or modified, I should not hesitate to avow my conviction that the Church of England will always be a gainer in the long run by the exercise of the largest possible comprehension."

Religious and Denominational News

KENT CONGREGATIONAL ASSOCIATION.

The seventy-eighth annual assembly of the ministers and delegates of the associated Congregational churches of Kent, representing seventy Independent churches with 120 chapels, including village stations, was convened at the Lewisham High-road Congregational Church, New Cross, on the 5th and 6th instant. Forty ministers and a fair number of laymen from different parts of the county attended the several meetings. On Tuesday the Kent Union Society held its annual meeting, when the treasurer, W. Jull, Esq., presided, and the assistant secretary, the Rev. J. Radford Thomson, M.A., brought forward the business. This society has a capital stock, amounting to nearly 13,000*l.*, the dividends from which are apportioned annually amongst all legal claimants to an annuity, being aged and disabled ministers, and widows of deceased ministers of the county who were beneficiary members. The sum of 470*l.* was thus appropriated amongst twenty-two annuitants. In addition to this amount, 70*l.* were granted in the form of gratuities to necessitous cases of Kentish ministers and their families. The annual sermon was preached on Tuesday evening to a large and attentive congregation by the Rev. Dr. Parker, of London.

After an early prayer-meeting on Wednesday morning, the annual business meeting was held at 9.30. The report was read by the secretary, Mr. Thomson, detailing the various changes that had taken place during the year, including the deaths of the Revs. J. Adey and J. Mackinnon, the removal of ten ministers, the settlement of four as pastors of churches, the opening of three village chapels, the enlargement of another, and the formation of one new church. The financial statement was submitted by the treasurer, J. H. Hatton, Esq., from which it appeared that, although the expenditure had exceeded the income, the funds were in a better state than at the last meetings. The report having been adopted, seven ministers who had settled in the county, and had been received into the several districts, were welcomed into the fellowship of the association. Grants were then made towards the maintenance of five lay evangelists in different parts of the shire. The Rev. Alfred Turner then brought forward the cases of the station churches; and grants in aid, of a very liberal character, were made to the churches in the following places:—New Brompton, Broadstairs, Hythe, Plumstead, Cranbrook and Iden Green, Ingress Vale, Northfleet, and Sandwich. Thanks were voted to the treasurer and to the re-

tiring chairman, the Rev. H. J. Bevis, and the Rev. G. L. Herman was elected chairman for the ensuing year. The secretaries, the Revs. J. R. Thomson and A. Turner, then resigned their office, on account of the pressure of other engagements, and received the kindest and most grateful acknowledgments of the brethren; and the Rev. R. T. Verrall, B.A., of Greenwich-road Chapel, was invited to accept the post of general secretary. Discussion arose regarding the constitution of the committee, and it was agreed that retiring members should be eligible for re-election, and that the districts should severally nominate their representatives for the approval of the annual assembly. It was announced that several schemes had originated with the executive committee in the course of the year which had proved remarkably successful. The Rev. W. Guest announced that, by the endeavours of a sub-committee appointed for the purpose, the interest felt in the country in the Pastors' Retiring Fund had been largely extended, and that additional subscriptions to that fund, amounting to about 400*l.*, had been remitted or promised during the last few months. A great scheme for liquidating 17,000*l.* of debt upon the churches in Kent, which originated in a paper read last July by Mr. Thomson, and had been worked by Mr. Turner, then came under the consideration of the assembly. It was announced that 2,600*l.* had been contributed by six gentlemen resident in Kent, as the nucleus of a fund from which those churches that wish to free themselves from debt will be liberally assisted. The effort was commended to the support of the county. Resolutions adopted by the Greenwich district, affecting to some extent the constitution of the association through the action of the districts, and which were to have been moved by the Rev. J. Beasley, were postponed for consideration during the year, to be brought forward at the next annual assembly.

A public meeting was held in the same church on Wednesday evening, and was largely attended. The Rev. H. J. Bevis took the chair, and addresses were given by the Rev. J. R. Thomson upon the constitution and work of the association, by the Rev. J. Beasley upon the Scriptural warrant for Nonconformity and Congregationalism, by the Rev. W. Guest upon the questions of the day in relation to Congregational polity, and the Rev. George Martin upon work for Christ.

The Rev. J. A. Chamberlain has resigned the pastorate of the Congregational church, Marden, Kent, after a residence of thirteen years.

The *Liverpool Mercury* says that a movement on foot in Liverpool for holding lay services in private houses, halls, &c., in connection with the Established Church has met with much encouragement.

The Rev. W. Crosby, M.A., LL.B., minister of Victoria-street Congregational Church in Derby, has received and declined a pressing invitation from the committee of Hackney College, London, to become Classical and Hebrew Tutor to that institution.

FOREST-HILL.—Arrangements are made for the Presbyterian Church in the Devonshire-road, Forest-hill, to be opened at the end of August, and the schools and minister's house soon after the close of the year. The building committee have received subscriptions amounting to about 2,000*l.*, including one thousand guineas from a gentleman residing in the neighbourhood. The Rev. Thomas Russell, M.A., will continue to conduct Divine worship at the Sydenham Lecture-hall until the church is opened.

THE REV. J. PARSONS.—The Rev. J. Parsons, of York, has expressed his desire to retire from the pastorate of Salem Chapel, in that city. He is now about seventy years of age, and his ministry extends over nearly fifty years. Leeds claim the honour of being the place of his nativity. He commenced life there in a solicitor's office; but when a very young man, became one of the most eloquent and popular ministers of the day. We hear that it is in contemplation to present him with a testimonial.—*Leeds Mercury*.

MR. SPURGEON AND THE AMERICAN SPECULATOR.—Some American *entrepreneur* wrote the other day to Mr. Spurgeon to ask him to go to America and lecture. His reply was characteristic:—"Gentlemen,—I am much obliged by your very courteous letter, but you are under a mistake. I am not a lecturer. I now and then give a lecture for some good object, but I do not do it well, and, moreover, have no ambition in that line. I am very glad to preach, but not if there is any charge at the door. Moreover, I have no kind of idea of visiting the States."

THE BISHOP OF EXETER IN WESTMINSTER ABBEY.—A very large congregation assembled on Sunday evening in Westminster Abbey, upon the occasion of the Bishop of Exeter preaching the sermon in connection with the special Sunday evening services. Every available inch of standing room was occupied, and a number of people went away because they could not obtain even this accommodation. Copies of the hymns, chants, &c., were freely circulated amongst the congregation, and were also attached to the pillars. The bishop selected as his subject the power of a spiritual life. His enunciation was so distinct and powerful that, without any apparent effort, his voice completely filled the nave. The sermon, which occupied about half an hour in its delivery, was most attentively listened to throughout.

KINGSBRIDGE, DEVON.—On Wednesday, July 13, recognition services in connection with the settlement of the Rev. J. Stewart as pastor, were held in the Independent Chapel. In the afternoon there was a public service, at which addresses were delivered by the Rev. R. W. McAll, F.L.S., of Hadleigh, and the Rev. C. B. Symes, B.A., of Plymouth. After the afternoon service there was an excellent tea, at which about 160 sat down. In the evening

there was a public meeting, presided over by Mr. B. Balkwill, when addresses were delivered by Revs. J. Iredale (Wesleyan), J. O'Dell (Baptist), J. D. Davies, M.A., of Dartmouth; C. B. Symes, E. W. McAll, J. Stewart, and Mr. W. Lidstone. There was a large attendance, and the interest was sustained to the close.

CROSS-STREET BAPTIST CHAPEL, ISLINGTON.—On Thursday evening, 7th inst., the sixth anniversary of the settlement of the Rev. Clement Bailhache was observed by holding a social meeting in the spacious schoolrooms, and an adjourned meeting afterwards in the chapel under the presidency of the pastor. The proceedings having been commenced with praise and prayer, congratulatory speeches were made by Mr. Goodchild representing the deacons, and Mr. Alfred Rooke on behalf of the church, and these were followed by strong and hearty expressions of esteem and regard for the minister by Messrs. Barnard, Smith, and others. All the speakers referred in warm and grateful terms both to the value of the teachings they have received from the pulpit, and to the constant interest and sympathy of the pastor and his wife in the personal concerns of the people; "an interest," it was remarked, "which had endeared them to many hearts, and had been especially valuable in times of anxiety and trial." Mr. Bailhache, in responding, expressed his thankfulness for all the kind expressions tendered towards himself and Mrs. Bailhache, and adverting to the reference that had been made to his sympathy with members in their time of trial, said that "if he had any burden to bear in connection with his work as a minister it arose chiefly from the weight which he had often felt to press heavily upon him through the very sympathy of which mention had been made. So far as his teaching and preaching were concerned, he was thankful to say he was conscious of a growing simplicity of purpose and of faith, and whilst earnestly seeking to place before his people a high ideal of the Christian life, after which he sought himself to aim, he had an increasing conviction that no view of that life could be higher than was presented by the New Testament." Having taken a brief retrospective glance at the changes that had occurred during the year, Mr. Bailhache concluded his address by stating that he entered upon a new year of labour under circumstances of much encouragement and hope. Mr. Kerr, the Secretary of the Finance Committee, then made a report upon the progress of the chapel and schools improvements, by which it appeared that the total cost amounted to 4547. 11s. 8d., and the sum contributed to 3732. 7s. 1d. There was a further sum promised which left about 70% to be provided. Messrs. Ward, Ogden, Brooks, and others, having addressed the meeting, nearly 600 were at once promised, and a very pleasant meeting was brought to a successful close.

MIDDLEGATE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, GREAT YARMOUTH.—The new Gothic structure, raised on the site of the old dilapidated place of worship, in which the Independents of Yarmouth met for more than a century, was opened on Tuesday, July 12th; when admirable sermons were delivered to large and attentive audiences by the Revs. J. C. Harrison, the chairman of the Congregational Union of England and Wales, and Dr. Mellor, of Halifax. On the same day many gathered together at an early hour in the morning, to supplicate the Divine blessing; and in the afternoon the Town Hall was crowded at a luncheon, presided over by the Rev. W. Tritton. Addresses were given by the Revs. W. Tritton and W. Griffiths (the ministers of the church), J. C. Harrison, and Dr. Mellor; John Croasley, Esq., of Halifax, and others. Among speakers and hearers there seemed to be but one opinion as to the superior excellence of the new sanctuary. All pronounced it elegant, handsome, and well fitted to subserve the purposes of Christian worship and teaching to which it is devoted. Many remarks were made of a nature highly complimentary to the architect, J. T. Bottle, Esq., of Yarmouth; and very encouraging to the people who have, for the second time within half a generation, taken upon them the responsibilities of chapel-building. On the following Thursday evening, a service was held in the church for the exposition of the principles of Congregational Dissenters. The meeting was addressed by the Rev. W. Griffiths (presiding), D. Tomkins, Esq., and the Revs. P. Colborne, of Norwich, and W. Tritton. And on Lord's-day, the 17th instant, the Revs. J. S. Russell, M.A., of Baywater (formerly a minister at Yarmouth) and G. S. Barrett, B.A., of Norwich, preached alternately in the King-street and Middlegate churches. The collections on these various occasions reached an aggregate of 1177., which will raise the amount contributed towards the undertaking to considerably over 2,000.—a noble sum, when it is borne in mind that most of it has come from the people who erected King-street Chapel in 1855, and have ever since maintained a double pastorate, and met the additional outlays incident to the keeping open of two places of worship instead of one. The cost of each edifice, including unequal sums for land, has been nearly the same—about 3,500. But, whilst the one has been entirely paid for, a burden of more than 1,000. has to be provided for by mortgage or otherwise in connection with the other. The Congregationalists of Yarmouth, forming one society only, though worshipping in separate buildings, are now provided with two commodious sanctuaries, in keeping with the spirit and taste of the age, and not unworthy either their own historical antecedents, or the great section of the Universal Church to which they belong.

Correspondence.

THE PRAYER-BOOK (TABLE OF LESSONS) BILL.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

DEAR SIR,—Since I last wrote you on this subject what I apprehended has come to pass. The Government, led by the Lord Chancellor, defeated the Earl of Shaftesbury's proposal to omit from the preamble of this bill the recital "that the revised table of lessons has been considered and approved by the Convocation of Canterbury, and by a committee of the Convocation of York." The majority was made up—firstly, of the Bishops, whose motive in voting against the Earl of Shaftesbury need not be described; secondly, of Ministerial Peers following the lead of the Lord Chancellor; thirdly, of Tory Peers following the lead of the Chancellor of Oxford—the Marquis of Salisbury. It is significant of the state of the Tory party that, although their ex-Chancellor and late leader (Lord Cairns) supported the amendment, and their nominal leader (the Duke of Richmond) took no part in the discussion, the Marquis of Salisbury, who, like the drunken sailor in "The Tempest," wishes to play the part of Viceroy over the Duke, led the Tory Peers to support an innovation wholly opposed to historic usage and Parliamentary precedent.

For the reasons given in my last letter, it is worth your readers' while to note the grounds assigned for opposing the amendment.

According to the report in the *Daily Telegraph*, the Lord Chancellor admitted that there was no precedent for the recital of the consent of the Convocations. The *Times* report, however, does not attribute any such admission to his lordship. Whether or not the Lord Chancellor did make the admission, there can be no doubt as to the course of Parliamentary precedent on this subject. As one of our greatest lawyers (Lord Hardwick) said: "In all the Acts of Parliament since the Reformation for confirming forms of prayer and other ecclesiastical constitutions, the preambles show that the clergy in Convocation were only considered as the proper assembly to prepare and propound them, but not to enact or give them their force."

In the case of this bill, the revised table of lessons has been prepared and propounded, not by Convocation, but by another body, the Royal Commissioners for the revision of the rubrics, which fact is recited in the preamble. The reason mentioned by Lord Hardwick for referring in other cases to the proceedings of Convocation does not therefore exist in this case, and hence in interpreting hereafter the Table of Lessons Act, the inference which will be drawn from the recital that the proposed change had been considered and approved of by the Convocations, is that the approval of those bodies was a necessary condition of Parliamentary legislation on the subject. What, then, was the reason assigned for this innovation? The Lord Chancellor stated "that the approval of Convocation was recited merely for the sake of peace, and to prevent uneasiness and sensitiveness in the consciences of many." Very desirable ends to attain, no doubt, but too dearly purchased at the cost of admitting by a side wind the legislative equality of Convocation with Parliament. Those sensitive clergymen also who require for the peace of their minds to be told that the change in the form of their service about to be made by Parliament is approved of by Convocation, can easily quiet their consciences by informing themselves—if they think it worth the trouble—of the proceedings of Convocation. This therefore, can be no reason for the mischievous and unprecedented proceeding initiated by the Lord Chancellor. To read the speeches of the noble and learned lord and his allies, one would think that they had never heard of such things as newspapers, daily and weekly, political and ecclesiastical.

Earl Grey deserves the gratitude alike of Dissenters and Church reformers, for pointing out "that if the words proposed to be left out were retained in the preamble, it would lead to the supposition, in future, that Parliament could not legislate upon Church matters without the consent of Convocation, and that it is absolutely necessary that Parliament should have full power to deal with Church matters as they should think right."

As usual, the words of truth and reason had no effect upon the "Conservative branch" of our Legislature, who, by a majority of thirty-six, retained this mischievous alteration in the course of Parliamentary precedent, and the matter is remitted to the House of Commons, who, we trust, will support the independence of Parliament in ecclesiastical legislation of any consent of those obsolete and galvanised bodies—the Convocations of Canterbury and York.

I am, Dear Sir, yours faithfully,
Madron, Cornwall, E. C. W.
July 18, 1870.

MIS-REPORTING.—In the report of his sermon a missionary in India was said to have remarked:—"The speaker was a deduction; and gave a learned description of Satan and his skill in sawing trees." The unhappy preacher wrote a piteous remonstrance to the editor of the paper which had published this *résumé*, to say that he was a Dutchman, and not a deduction, and that he had described Satan, not as sawing trees, but sowing tares.

Parliamentary Intelligence.

HOUSE OF LORDS. UNIVERSITY TESTS BILL.

On Thursday Lord DE GRAY, in moving the second reading of the University Tests Bill, repeated the arguments in its favour, and explained its provisions.

Lord SALISBURY moved as an amendment two resolutions—(1) that it was essential to provide safeguards for the maintenance of religious instruction and worship, and for the religious character of education at the Universities; and (2) that the bill be referred to a select committee to give effect to the first resolution. The opponents of the bill did not desire to exclude Nonconformists from the honours and emoluments of the Universities, because any differences between the Church and the Dissenters sank into insignificance compared with the danger arising from the present movement towards religious unbelief. He pointed out how the bill bore on this great controversy, and, referring to the change in the constitution of the colleges under the Act of 1854, argued that there was no longer any Parliamentary guarantee for the faith of the fellows and tutors of a college, and that under this bill a few men might make some of the colleges centres for the propagation of religious unbelief. It was in accordance with Parliamentary traditions that such a measure, opposed as it was by a majority of the bodies with which it dealt, should be preceded by a sufficient inquiry. If the safeguards of the bill were not illusory the truth would come out, and the bill might pass. If otherwise, they were asked to cut the link between religion and the Universities, and to inflict irreparable evils on those ancient institutions.

The Bishop of OXFORD stated the reasons which made it his duty to vote against the amendment. Public opinion called for the abolition of these religious tests, and demanded that all Englishmen should have free access to the honours and emoluments of the Universities. He could not see what inquiry could be made by a select committee that would affect the decision of Parliament, while it would be certain to postpone the bill for another year.

The Bishop of GLOUCESTER was favourable to inquiry, and indicated certain University reforms to which it might be advantageously extended.

The Bishop of EXETER warmly defended the bill. He congratulated their Lordships upon the general agreement that conscientious Dissenters should no longer be excluded from University honours and emoluments, and that the question now was, not what should be done, but in what manner. He entreated them to pass the bill at once, alleging that delay would be seriously mischievous to the Church. Pointing out the hardship to young men of sensitive conscience in being called upon to sign tests and to decide the most momentous questions prematurely, he admitted that tests had done some little good in their day, but declared from personal knowledge that they now caused much mischievous speculation among young men, and a perpetual doubt whether their teachers were not tongue-tied. If the inquiry were granted what kind of safeguards were to be provided? Were there to be new tests? A large number of Heads and Fellows of Colleges were required to be clergymen, and this was one of the existing safeguards which would be perilled by delay and further agitation. He believed that the bill would soften the asperities which separated the Nonconformists, and that the Church would find in them such allies against infidelity that there would be no reason to fear the bugbears held up to induce them to consent to delay.

The Archbishop of YORK also supported the bill. No question was understood more clearly than that of University tests, and no substantial benefit could follow from an inquiry. The practical operation of the bill would be inconsiderable, and he hoped they would not be led away by illusory promises of safeguards that could not be obtained. The right rev. prelate concluded by saying:—

There is as great a divergence of opinion in Oxford at this moment as in your Lordships' House. (Hear, hear.) The tests have not succeeded in preventing that, and the abolition of the tests would not produce all the revolution that is apprehended from it. My lords, I will not trouble you at greater length. I am connected with Oxford as a visitor of one of its colleges, as having lived a great part of my life and spent all my happiest days there. It is the birthplace of my children. I hope they will be educated there, and I would not inflict an injury on my own University on any account. But I am convinced, my lords, that the wisest and most prudent as well as the most just course, is to pass some bill at present, and not by means of illusory promises to defer to a future day, amid acrimony and irritation, the settlement which must surely come, and to which I foresee that your Lordships will one day accede. (Loud cheers.)

Their Lordships then divided. The numbers were:—

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|------------------------------------|----|
| Content | 83 |
| Not-content | 97 |
| Majority for the amendment | 14 |

The words of the first part of the amendment was then inserted.

On the second part of the amendment, "That a committee be appointed for the purpose of inquiring into the best mode of giving effect to the foregoing resolution,"

Earl GRAY asked their lordships to seriously con-

under what advantage was to be derived from that course. (Hear, hear.) If safeguards were necessary, would it not have been in the power of the noble marquis, who held a high position at Oxford, to have consulted with the leading members of that University, and to have devised some measures which would have accomplished his object? Those measures he could have placed before the House. Was it because he was unable to devise safeguards that he asked their Lordships to adopt this course? And did the noble marquis think that a committee, composed of men of various and clashing opinions, with no scheme laid before them, would be likely to form a correct notion of what safeguards there ought to be? He thought that the appointment of a committee would be an idle, not to say a mischievous step, and he trusted that his noble friend (Earl De Grey) would give their Lordships an opportunity of expressing their opinion on this part of the question.

The Marquis of SALISBURY said he would rather have a scheme which was approved by a select committee than one which was only suggested by himself; and, further, he desired that there should be placed on record the grounds on which the select committee made their recommendation. If he brought forward a proposition on his own authority only he would not have those strong and valid reasons with which he would be furnished by the report of a select committee, and the evidence of the witnesses whom they examined.

Earl GRANVILLE was bound to say that up to that moment he had not heard a single argument in favour of the plan of referring this question to a select committee, which his noble friend (Earl Grey) had so strongly denounced. Was it proposed that the committee should inquire whether infidelity existed now in the Universities to any degree, and whether doubts, discussions, and extreme opinions prevailed at Oxford, or would the committee inquire into what tests could be suggested? The noble Marquis had not told their Lordships what new test he thought it would be wise and expedient to offer to the committee, and did he really mean to invite them to appoint a select committee to consider certain clauses of the Act of Uniformity on which every educated man, both in and out of the House, had already formed his opinion?

Earl RUSSELL said that if the noble marquis imagined that by some device he was going to separate those who he said were called Protestant Dissenters from the great body of Nonconformists, and so get the majority into the University, he believed that no such bribe would be accepted. The noble marquis might frame a test with that object, but he felt convinced that the Dissenters would never enter the Universities under such degrading conditions.

The Bishop of LLANDAFF said that in the regulations for the Government of Trinity College, Cambridge, Queen Elizabeth enacted that there should be a simple declaration on the part of young men that they embraced the Christian faith and preferred the written Word of God to things that were unwritten. A select committee might adopt some such test, which would admit all orthodox Nonconformists, but would exclude those who might poison the minds of young men.

The Duke of SOMERSET said all that the proposed committee could do had been done already; information had been given, and the subject was thoroughly known. He remembered a case where a noble duke obtained a committee on a bill, but after a few witnesses had been examined he went out of town, and the bill was thus conveniently shelved. He wished to know, therefore, whether the noble marquis would stick to his committee after he got it. (Laughter.)

The Bishop of LINCOLN said he had the honour of being the visitor of colleges in both our Universities and also of that important public school the Royal College of King Edward VI. Consequently he had a public duty to perform towards those institutions, and he must express his strong conviction that the subject of the safeguards for religious instruction ought to receive a sifting inquiry at the hands of a select committee. If this bill became law the youth of the country would run the risk of being brought under the influence of unbelievers or of those whose seductive arts would lead them into another Church. (Cries of "Question.")

The House then divided, with the following result:—

| | |
|----------------------|-----|
| Contents | 95 |
| Not-Contents | 79 |
| Majority | —16 |

Earl DE GREY asked when the noble marquis proposed to nominate his committee.

The Marquis of SALISBURY said he would do so as soon as he had an opportunity of conferring with the Government, and hoped the committee would meet in the ensuing week.

On the motion to go into committee on the Benefices Bill, the Duke of MARLBOROUGH consented to discharge the order, and said he would move next session for a select committee to consider the subject.

The "Prayer Book (Lectinary) Bill," the title of which has been altered to the "Prayer Book (Table of Lessons) Bill," passed a stage.

The Commons' reasons for disagreeing from certain of the Lords' amendments to the Irish Land Bill were brought up, and their Lordships adjourned at twenty minutes to ten o'clock.

On Friday, Lord MALMESBURY asked whether the announcement in the evening papers that France had declared war was correct. Lord GRANVILLE replied that the Government had not received any official information, but he feared there was no doubt that the

telegram was true. At present it was not advisable to say more; but all the communications between Her Majesty's Government and other Powers would be laid before Parliament, and would be found to consist of no inconsiderable mass of papers.

IRISH LAND BILL.

After a short discussion on the new scheme of naval retirement, their Lordships undertook the consideration of the Commons' reasons for disagreeing with their amendments in the Irish Land Bill. The Commons' scale of compensation, the thirty-one years' lease, the proviso enabling a tenant to make a claim in a lower class than the actual valuation of his holding, the permission to the tenant to let land in conacre for potatoes or other green crops without being deprived of the benefit of the scale of penalties on disturbance, were substantially agreed to. The Lords, however, refused to surrender the provision they had inserted in the bill giving either landlord or tenant power to file his claim for improvements; or to restore the power of the court to decide whether the "breach of any condition against assignment, subletting, bankruptcy, or insolvency," should be included among the causes of ejectment which are not to be deemed disturbance. A committee was then appointed to draw up reasons for insisting on these amendments.

The Duke of MANCHESTER called attention to the proposal to transfer the settlement of the Gambia to French, and said that such a transfer was inopportune at a moment when France had declared war upon one of our allies. Lord GRANVILLE gave an assurance that nothing would be done without the consent of Parliament.

Their Lordships adjourned at half-past eight.

THE WAR.

On Monday, Lord RUSSELL, reminding the Foreign Secretary that he would be justified by the precedents of 1823 and 1854 in making a Ministerial statement relative to the recent negotiations, and that the nation had a right to know what part its own Government had taken in them, asked, among other questions, whether England was one of the Powers which, according to the Duke de Gramont, had "with more or less warmth" declared their sympathy with France in the late dispute.

Lord CAIRNS also inquired whether it was the intention of Government to amend the law so as to enforce neutrality upon British subjects, as recommended by a Royal Commission.

Lord GRANVILLE said the Government would immediately bring in a bill to carry out the recommendations of the commission. He had no desire to withhold information, but he should prefer to postpone his statement for a few days, until the papers connected with the negotiations had been laid on the table. There was no discrepancy or difference between himself and the Duke de Gramont as to any matter of fact, but the latter had drawn an inference from what he had said.

That inference, which I do not admit, he thinks he draws from the fact that most of the European Governments certainly exercised their influence in promoting some peaceful solution of the question. That, however, is a question which your Lordships will be better able to judge of when the papers are before you, and, therefore, with your Lordships' permission, I will make no statement till that time, when it will be my duty to make the fullest statement possible. It is too true that yesterday evening a declaration of war was forwarded from Paris to Berlin. That will necessitate an immediate proclamation of neutrality on our part. I am happy to say that a fortnight ago our relation with France, with Spain, and with Prussia were all of the most friendly character. During the last ten days we have used the strongest language compatible with their dignity and our self-respect. I am happy to state I believe that language has not affected those friendly relations up to this time, and, whatever may be the habit of free discussion in this country, I am quite sure your Lordships will think that Her Majesty's Government are bound to maintain that attitude of dignified reserve which will best enable us to maintain our rights as neutrals, to show perfect impartiality and justice to both parties, and in the end, when these clouds have passed away, to act with more usefulness whenever there is a chance of restoring peace. (Cheers.)

Lord KINNAIRD moved for a select committee to inquire into the past and present management of the Royal Mint. Lord LANSDOWNE said that the motion was premature, as the Mint had only just been reorganised. The motion was withdrawn.

The Duke of RICHMOND moved the second reading of the Life Assurance Company Bill. He briefly explained its object in securing the publication of accounts and the improved management and operation of these companies in the interest of the policyholders. Lord KIMBERLEY expressed his approval of the bill, which was read a second time.

PROPERTY OF MARRIED WOMEN.

On the motion to go into committee on the Married Women's Property Bill, Lord CAIRNS explained the nature of the amendments made in the select committee. The bill now provided that the earnings of a married woman should be considered as her separate property, and it also protected an investments which she might make out of her earnings or before she was married. The bill contained a clause enabling a man effecting a life-policy to endorse upon it a declaration that it was made for the benefit of his wife and children, in which case, in the absence of fraud, it would not be liable for the payment of his debts. Lord PENKANCE said that this was really a fresh bill, and expressed his gratification that in its present shape it would be a practical working measure. Lord Houghton saw no reason why the bill should

secure the property of a married woman only on condition that it should be invested in the savings banks, the public funds, benefit societies, and public companies. The only intelligible protection was to secure her property for her own personal use, whether it was in the shape of furniture or money. The bill then went through committee. The Prayer-book (Tables of Lessons) Bill was read a third time and passed after a short discussion, in which Lords Harrowby and Stanhope and the Bishop of Gloucester took part.

THE JUDICIAL COMMITTEE.

The LORD CHANCELLOR, in moving the second reading of the Judicial Committee Bill, said its object was twofold—to increase the number of those who might be placed on the Judicial Committee, and to secure payment to four members on the Judicial Committee who should be bound to attend the sittings of the court. He explained the means by which the strength of the Judicial Committee will be increased, by the appointment of retired Indian judges, of barristers at home of fifteen years' standing, to receive salaries of 2,500*l.* a year, and of retired English judges. The bill would finally enable the Judicial Committee to sit in two sections, and thus dispose of the present arrears of Indian appeals. Lord CAIRNS was glad that means had been taken to remove the disgrace of the present delay in hearing Indian appeals, but pointed out some defects in the bill which would require amendment in committee. The bill was read a second time, and their Lordships adjourned shortly after eight o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

SITES FOR PLACES OF WORSHIP BILL.

On Wednesday Mr. O. MORGAN, in moving that the order for going into committee on this bill be discharged, explained that the measure had a twofold object. First, to facilitate the acquisition of sites for places of worship, and secondly, to give power to obtain land for the erection of schools. Since the bill had been read a second time the latter object had been attained by the introduction of clauses into the Elementary Education Bill, so that if he were to persevere with the bill he would have to cut it in half; and considering the period of the session at which they had arrived, he thought it better to withdraw the bill now, and reintroduce it next session with reference to the acquisition of sites for places of worship.

Mr. NEWDEGATE was glad that the hon. member had not persevered with this bill, because that part of the subject which had not been dealt with by the Government was dealt with by the hon. member in a most objectionable manner. The compulsory powers, which the hon. gentleman intended to enact, were of such a nature that he hoped the House would not be prepared next session to sanction them. (Hear, hear.)

The motion was agreed to, and the bill withdrawn.

PERMISSIVE PROHIBITORY LIQUOR BILL.

In moving the second reading of the Permissive Prohibitory Liquor Bill, Sir W. LAWSON dwelt with accustomed emphasis upon the evils which arise in this country from habits of intoxication; and maintained that they are in great part attributable to the temptations which are offered to the people under the existing system of licensing public-houses. He regretted that his measure had not reached its present stage at an earlier period of the session, but justified its postponement on the ground that he had been waiting for the production of the general licensing measure which had been promised by the Government.

The motion for the second reading was seconded by Lord C. HAMILTON, while the rejection of the measure was proposed by Mr. WHEELHOUSE and Mr. O'REILLY DEANE. Mr. WHALLEY supported the bill, which he described as not a measure of prohibition, but a most valuable and necessary improvement in the existing system of licensing. Mr. KENNAWAY on the other hand could not recognise either the wisdom or the justice of this proposal, and dwelt especially upon the necessity which its adoption would create for giving compensation to the dealers in intoxicating liquors.

Mr. BRUCE explained the circumstances under which the Government had been prevented from introducing their Licensing Bill during the present session—the extraordinary length of time occupied by the consideration of the Irish Land Bill and the Education Bill—and promised that it should be brought in at the earliest period next year. He admitted that it was desirable to reduce to a considerable extent the number of public-houses and beer-shops, and in carrying out this restriction to give effect to the popular will expressed in a guarded and legitimate manner. The bill of the member of Carlisle was in many respects imperfect, especially in making no provision for the compensation which it would be necessary to pay to the dealers in intoxicating liquors; and for a variety of reasons he was compelled to recommend the House to reject it.

Mr. M. A. BASS attributed to the supporters of this measure the desire to suppress the trade in intoxicating liquors altogether; and described the bill as merely a feint design to impress their principles as far as possible upon the Licensing Bill to be introduced next year.

When a division was taken the motion for the second reading was negatived by a majority of 31—121 to 90; but the announcement of the numbers was received with loud cheers by the supporters of the bill, who evidently regarded this defeat as a presage of ultimate if not proximate victory.

The Churchwardens' Liability Bill, which had come down from the House of Lords, was read a second time.

THE BURIALS BILL.

The House resolved into committee on this bill.

On Clause 1, providing that notice might be given to the incumbent of an intention to bury in the churchyard without the rites of the Ecclesiastical Church, Mr. GOLDNEY proposed an amendment limiting the operation of the clause to churchyards where the deceased, previously to the passing of the bill, would have had a right of interment. Mr. G. O. MORGAN objected to the amendment, as being unnecessary. It was rejected by 143 to 89.

Mr. COLLINS moved the omission from the clause of the words "or graveyards." His object was to carry out the compromise of the committee on the bill. Mr. G. O. MORGAN undertook to insert the amendment in the proviso to the 12th clause. Mr. COLLINS thought it very inconvenient to discuss a proviso which was not before them. Mr. CRAWLEY hoped the words proposed to be struck out would be retained. The amendment was negatived.

Mr. SOLATER-BORTH had an amendment to propose, which, however, he moved in no spirit of hostility to Dissenters. His earnest desire was that Dissenters should have free access to the church and churchyard—the more free the better; but the performance of Divine service within the churchyard by other than ministers of the Church of England was a violation, he did not say of decency, but of good order, which he thought they ought not to sanction. There was really no practical distinction between the performance of Divine service in the churchyard and the church. He moved the omission in line eighteen of the words "either with or." Mr. BAINES thought the amendment would be most offensive to Dissenters; it would destroy all the conciliatory effect of the bill, and it would be much better to throw out the bill altogether. (Hear, hear.) Mr. HEYGATE hoped the hon. and learned member who had charge of the bill would accept the amendment, which appeared to be a very fair one. Sir M. Peto's bill contained a restriction to the same effect as the amendment. Mr. CAYE expressed a hope that it was not proposed to allow Roman Catholics to perform their burial services in the churchyard; if they were there would no doubt be most painful disturbances, as had occurred in the south of England, in consequence of attempts to introduce into a parish churchyard the extravagant services of a body commonly called Ritualistic. Mr. O. MORGAN considered the amendment affected the whole principle of the bill, and Mr. BRUCE supported him. Colonel BARTHELOT would support the amendment. If beaten he should move the omission of the clause. He would do his best to defeat the bill. Mr. COLLINS supported the amendment.

Mr. BENTINCK was addressing the House in support of the amendment at a quarter to six o'clock, when by order all discussion must cease, and the proceedings in committee on the bill abruptly terminated.

FRANCE AND PRUSSIA.

On Thursday, in reply to Mr. DISRAELI, Mr. GLADSTONE said that the efforts of the Government were being and would continue to be directed to the removal of difficulties, and the maintenance of peace. In reply to an inquiry from Mr. HORSMAN, whether, as far as England was concerned, M. de Gramont was correct in stating that France had the sympathy and support of every Cabinet in Europe, Mr. GLADSTONE did not feel himself justified in giving any more direct response than that Lord Granville had addressed to the French Minister of Foreign Affairs a communication "upon the subject of the declaration" referred to.

THE EDUCATION BILL—THE BALLOT.

The House then went into committee on the Education Bill, and several hours were spent in discussing new clauses and the schedules. Mr. W. E. FORSTER added clauses enabling the Metropolitan School Board to pay its chairman, and giving the Education Department power to dissolve school boards.

Several new clauses were moved by private members. None of them were accepted, but Mr. FORSTER consented to a modification of a clause, suggested by Sir C. ADDERLEY, by which the school boards will be enabled to appoint officers to enforce the Industrial Schools Act. On a clause, moved by Mr. LAIRD, to provide for elections in districts under Improvement Commissioners, Mr. FORSTER took the opportunity of stating that on the report he would move an amendment giving the election of the school boards directly to the ratepayers in boroughs as well as country districts.

On the second schedule, which prescribes the rules for the election of school boards, there arose an extremely animated discussion, provoked by a motion made by Sir C. DILKE that the election shall be by "secret voting." Mr. FORSTER was willing to accept the ballot without the qualification of "secret," for the limited period of a year from next September, under the direction of the Education Department, and he pointed out that this mode of voting in local affairs was already sanctioned by an Act of William IV., and that there were no school boards likely to be elected within the next twelve months, except in the metropolis or the few districts which would at once call for the creation of boards. Mr. Beresford Hope, Lord J. Manners, and Sir J. Pakington warmly complained of this attempt to foist into the bill by surprise and by a sideward question which had no connection with education; while Mr. DIXON warned the Government that by running away from the principle they would provoke the immediate hostility of a large section of the Liberal party.

Mr. HARDY indulged in some sarcastic observations on the differences in the party opposite, which he said he viewed sometimes with amusement and sometimes with "contempt"; but this last word he subsequently withdrew, under the pressure of a vigorous invective from Mr. Gladstone. He denounced the acceptance of the amendment as designed by the Government to throw dust in the eyes of the "gentlemen below the gangway," and to console them for the failure of the Ballot Bill. But he warned the Government that by thus trying "to sneak" the principle of the ballot into the Education Bill, they would certainly insure its rejection.

Mr. GLADSTONE resented with some warmth the imputations on the good faith of the Government, and maintained that the ballot was neither an innovation in local elections nor unconnected with education. The concession, too, asked from the Opposition had been reduced in form to a *minimum*.

Mr. Henley, Mr. Liddell, Mr. Greene, Mr. Newdegate, and others on the same side, also protested against this inopportune and unnecessary intrusion of the ballot; and Mr. H. JAMES declared that as a ballot without secrecy was worthless, he should decline to support the Government on this occasion. After some further altercation, Colonel BARTHELOT, to give the Government time for second thoughts, moved that the chairman report progress, which Mr. GLADSTONE vehemently opposed, but Mr. DISRAELI thought it extremely reasonable, considering how the Government had contrived to excite passion at the last moment in endeavouring to settle a great question of politics by a sideward. The motion to report progress was negatived by 244 to 136, and the committee then divided on the main question of the ballot, which was carried by 234 to 155.

Lord C. HAMILTON moved to substitute "voting papers" for the ballot. On this there was a very brief discussion, and Lord SANDON remarked that though he had all along supported the bill he felt so strongly the impolicy of raising the ballot question, that he should take every opportunity now of voting against it. Mr. BIRLEY and Mr. BRODRICK spoke in the same strain, and Mr. R. TORRENS strongly denounced a form of ballot which was not secret. On a division the voting papers were rejected by 228 to 167.

Mr. FORSTER then proposed to strike out the epithet "secret," on which Sir L. PALK asked what was meant by a ballot which was not secret? The Marquis of HARTINGTON repeated an explanation given before more than once by Mr. Forster, that the word secret was omitted because it was interpreted by some to mean a ballot which not only might be, but must be, absolutely secret, and the Government did not wish to commit the House to that on so short a discussion. On a division the word was struck out by 288 to 47.

The fifth division was taken on a motion by Sir J. ELPHINSTONE to report progress, and here Mr. DISRAELI interposed a last appeal to the Government to withdraw the unhappy innovation which had caused so much discord, and urged the importance of finishing the bill at the earliest moment and with all possible unanimity, in the present state of public business and the threatening aspect of foreign affairs. As an additional reason he pointed out to Mr. Gladstone that the form of ballot was not acceptable to a large section of his supporters.

Mr. GLADSTONE steadily declined to recede on the ground of public duty, and argued that the ballot was not an innovation in local elections, and that the present proposal was temporary and limited.

Sir J. ELPHINSTONE's motion was negatived by 210 to 114, and immediately afterwards a motion was made by Lord J. MANNERS to substitute for the ballot the usual mode of electing guardians; but this the House refused to adopt by 196 to 127.

Sir H. SELWIN-IBBETSON next moved to add a proviso that all the votes taken by ballot shall be open to the inspection of any ratepayers, a proposition which was received with much laughter, and negatived summarily by 187 to 98. The opposition was then varied by a third motion to report progress, which was defeated by 178 to 90, and that was followed by a motion that the chairman leave the chair, for which 82 voted and 171 against.

The committee was prolonged with the defeated divisions until a quarter to five o'clock, when the House adjourned.

FRANCE AND PRUSSIA.

When the House met at two o'clock on Friday, Mr. DISRAELI, excusing his interposition by the extreme gravity of the crisis, asked the Government to put the House in possession of the latest information as to the relations between France and Prussia. Expressing his profound disbelief in the possibility of a war of succession in these days of enlightenment, he reminded the House that two years ago both France and Prussia had invited the good offices of this country, and they were successful in removing difficulties between them which then threatened a rupture. On this account, he maintained, France and Prussia had no moral right to go to war without consulting us. He asked whether the Government had taken any steps in this direction, and in conclusion he said:—

I will only venture before I sit down to express my individual opinion that the ruler of any country who at this time disturbs the peace of Europe incurs the gravest political and moral responsibility—(Hear, hear)—that it has ever fallen to the lot of man to incur. I hear, sir, superficial remarks made about military surprises, the capture of capitals, and the brilliancy and celerity

with which results which are not expected or contemplated may be brought about at this moment. Sir, those are events of a bygone age. (Hear, hear.) In the last century such melodramatic catastrophes were frequent and effective; we live in an age animated by a very different spirit; I think a great country like France and a great country like Prussia cannot be ultimately affected by such results; and the sovereign who trusts to them will find at the moment of action that he has to encounter, wherever he may be placed, a greater and more powerful force than any military array, and that is the outraged opinion of an enlightened world. (Cheers.)

Mr. GLADSTONE, after remarking that the right hon. gentleman enjoyed a freedom which did not belong to the advisers of the Crown, and adverting to the "impressive" words with which he closed his speech,—he must say that it was the opinion of Her Majesty's Government, as it appeared to be Mr. Disraeli's opinion, that there was nothing in the circumstances, nothing in the differences which had lately appeared, which would justify, in the judgment and conscience of the world, a breach of the general peace. (Cheers.) He reminded the House that the Protocol of Paris gave not only England but the other great Powers the right of being consulted in such emergencies. Moreover, both France and Prussia had shown such a real willingness to listen to any representations made to them that the British Government had not thought it necessary to take any special step of the nature indicated by Mr. Disraeli. With regard to the actual position of affairs he had nothing specific to tell the House, but he admitted that the communications between the two Powers had been on the whole unfavourable. The moment for the final decision must soon arrive, and in the meantime the Government would use all their efforts to avert the calamity of war. When the papers were laid before Parliament he hoped it would be seen that the Government had neither fallen short of nor gone beyond their duty.

Attempts made by Mr. HORSMAN and Mr. S. BEAUMONT to raise a debate were promptly and firmly repressed by the Speaker, with the evident approval of the House.

THE CESSION OF GAMBIA.

Sir J. HAY called attention to the supposed preparations for transferring the colony of the Gambia to France, which he strongly condemned. Mr. MONSELL replied that the transaction was not a cession but an exchange, by which we received the undisputed sovereignty over several stations nearer to Sierra Leone and more valuable to us. The number of English people in this settlement did not exceed fifty, the trade was very unimportant, and the change has been strongly recommended by Governor Kennedy. He promised, however, that no steps should be taken without Parliament having ample opportunity of expressing its opinions. Sir C. B. ADDERLEY was of opinion that the change was very favourable for this country, since the settlement would only involve us in perpetual war, and the climate was too pestilential for any really valuable trade to be established there. Colonel SYKES, however, doubted the power of the Government to transfer British subjects to a foreign jurisdiction without their consent; and Mr. EASTWICK took the same view, and denied that the climate was unhealthy. Mr. HUGHES protested strongly against handing over a British population to what the news just received in the House proved to be a purely military Power. Mr. Heygate, Mr. Macfie, and Sir James Elphinstone also opposed the cession, and after Mr. MONSELL had assured Sir T. BASLEY that the commercial interests of British subjects had been carefully secured, the subject dropped.

The House then went into Committee of Supply, and agreed to several votes in Class II. of the Civil Service Estimates.

At the evening sitting the House was counted out immediately on the Speaker taking the chair.

On Monday Mr. GLADSTONE made a similar statement to that of Earl Granville's in the Lords.

Sir J. ELPHINSTONE asked Mr. Childers whether it was intended to take any steps to increase the strength of the Navy, so as to be ready for all eventualities, but Mr. CHILDERS (who was loudly cheered on his return to the House) declined to give any answer.

In answer to Mr. OSBORNE, Mr. CHILDERS read at length the correspondence relating to the retirement of Mr. Reed from the Admiralty.

A second instalment of the "Massacre of the Innocents" was performed by Mr. GLADSTONE, who withdrew the Savings Bank Bill, the Mines Regulation Bill, and the Parliamentary Elections Bill. The great length of time since spent, and not unworthily, on the Education Bill had drawn the House on so late in the session that all the Government could hope to dispose of before the close of the week was the Education Bill and the Irish Land Bill, making at the same time some progress with Supply.

UNIVERSITY TESTS BILL.

Lord E. FITZMAURICE asked the First Lord of the Treasury whether the Government saw any reasonable prospect of the University Tests Bill being proceeded with this session after the decision arrived at in another place on Thursday, the 14th.

Mr. GLADSTONE: At the present moment the Government are unable to form a positive opinion, but they do not despair of carrying the bill through Parliament during the present session until certain of the effect of the motion carried in the House of Lords. The first conclusion they were inclined to form was that that motion was fatal to the measure, but from what they have since learnt they think it

their duty to wait a few days before allowing themselves to assume with certainty that that decision must necessarily be fatal to the bill. Of course it will be their duty to arrive at their conclusion with a due regard to the substance of the bill and the object it has in view.

MR. REED'S RESIGNATION.

In reply to Mr. B. Osborne, Mr. CHILDERS (Pontefract) read the correspondence that had taken place between Mr. Reed, the Constructor for the Navy, and the Board of Admiralty on the subject of Mr. Reed's resignation. Mr. Reed stated that he was about to join a well-known private firm, that he resigned without pension or emolument, and, subsequently, in view of the impending war upon the Continent, he offered to continue his services, so that the Government might not be placed in any difficulty by his sudden withdrawal. This offer the Admiralty had declined.

Mr. LEATHAM gave notice that he would push his Ballot Bill to a second reading on Wednesday week.

THE ARMY.

The House then went at once into Committee of Supply, and in little over an hour the remainder of the Army Estimates were agreed to with the exception of Vote 16, which was postponed.

The Army Enlistment Bill was next considered in committee, but before any progress was made Major Dickson, General C. Lindsay, Lord Bury, and others took serious exception to it as weakening the power of recruiting, and as a hazardous experiment in the present state of Europe. Sir J. PAKINGTON was of opinion that it would be wisest on the whole to withdraw the bill at this moment. Mr. O'REILLY defended the bill, and

Mr. CARDWELL maintained that, so far from striking a single blow at the present system, the bill would strengthen it, by giving the military authorities additional powers of recruiting, and would enable them to attract into the army a class which now never took service. Though introduced originally in a time of profound peace, he asserted that even in the present state of continental politics it was a wise measure and would increase the efficiency of our army. He pointed out, two, that it would be at least six years before a single man would be discharged under its operation.

General Herbert, Captain Beaumont, and Colonel North criticised the details of the bill; the latter strongly condemning the improvident economy of the House of Commons in dealing with the army.

The bill was then passed through committee almost without amendment. Colonel BARTELOT endeavoured to raise the general *minimum* of service from three years to six, and, failing this, to raise the term of service in the Cavalry, Artillery, and Engineers to seven years. He was supported by most of the military members of the House; but in the first division he was beaten by 122 to 56, and in the second by 111 to 85.

The Public Schools Act (1868) Amendment Bill was read a second time, as were the National Debt, Forgery, and Statute Law Revision Bills. A considerable time was taken up in settling the clauses of the Sheriffs (Scotland) Act Amendment Bill in committee.

Mr. CHICHESTER FORTESCUE moved for and obtained leave to introduce a bill to amend the Act of the first and second years of the reign of his late Majesty King William IV., chap. 33, in part, and to afford facilities for obtaining loans for the acquirement of lands for glebes, and for the erection, enlargement, and improvement of the glebe-houses in Ireland.

Sundry other bills were forwarded a stage, and the House adjourned at twenty minutes past two o'clock.

ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.

BRECON.—The nomination took place on Monday. The candidates duly proposed were Mr. Holford, Conservative, and Mr. Price, Liberal. The show of hands was declared by the Mayor in favour of Mr. Price. The whole proceedings were characterised by great uproar and fighting.

ROCHESTER.—The nomination of candidates took place yesterday morning at twelve o'clock. Dr. Steel proposed, and Mr. Everist seconded, Mr. Goldsmid. Mr. Martin proposed, and Mr. Hubbard seconded, Mr. Fox, who was proposed as the independent candidate. The show of hands was declared to be in favour of the latter gentleman.

NORWICH.—The official declaration of the poll was made on Thursday. The numbers were—For Mr. Tillet, 4,286; for Mr. Huddleston, 3,874; thus giving the former a majority of 362. Mr. Tillet, in returning thanks for his election, expressed a hope that those of the Liberals who had not voted would consider that all differences were now at an end, and that henceforth the party would be united and invincible. A petition against Mr. Tillet's return is to be proceeded with, on the grounds of his disqualification and bribery. The Liberals say the question has been already decided by Baron Martin on Stracey's election, more than twelve months having elapsed since the petition.

PROGRESS OF TOLERANCE IN THE NORTH OF IRELAND.—We observe in a recently-issued programme of races to be run on the Maze course, county Down, under the particular patronage of the Marquis of Downshire, that one of the events to be contested was "open to horses of all denominations."—*Zozimus*.

FRANCE AND PRUSSIA.

WAR DECLARED BY FRANCE.

On Friday war was declared by France against Prussia. Last Wednesday evening there seemed good reason for hoping that the dire calamity would be averted. On the preceding day the Duc de Gramont was, it is said, on the point of proceeding to the Legislature to make an important declaration, when a despatch from Madrid was handed to him containing the official report of the renunciation of the Throne of Spain by Prince Leopold; and in consequence he remained at the Foreign Office. The Legislative Body waited in vain, but M. Ollivier appeared in the lobbies, and whispered that the Government were satisfied and peace secured. There was a great rise at the Bourse, and the *Constitutionnel* (the Ministerial organ) next morning said:—"The Prince of Hohenzollern will not reign in Spain, and we ask for nothing further. We receive with pride a pacific solution, and this great victory which has been obtained without one drop of blood having been shed." But it soon oozed out that M. Ollivier had spoken only his own sentiments or of a portion of the Ministry. A violent altercation between the Keeper of the Seals and the Foreign Minister took place the preceding evening, and there were confident reports that MM. Ollivier, M. Segris, M. Maurice Richard, and M. Louvet would resign, their places being filled up by M. M. Schneider, Jerome David, Magne, and Clement Duvernois. But the tide of events swept on, and a change of Ministry became unimportant, M. Ollivier going with the stream.

On Wednesday the Minister for Foreign Affairs appeared in the Chamber, and while stating that the Spanish Ambassador had made the official communication that the candidature of Prince Leopold of Hohenzollern was abandoned, added:—"The negotiations with Prussia, which had no other object, are not concluded. I can therefore say nothing about the maintenance of peace. And I have nothing to do with lobby reports." This disdainful allusion to M. Ollivier's gossip called up Baron Jerome David, an ultra-Imperialist, and a special member of the court party; who, lest there should be any mistake about the allusion of the Minister of Foreign Affairs, said that what he called "lobby rumours" was a communication publicly made by M. Ollivier to several members. The end of the conversation was that Friday was fixed upon to answer interpellations proposed by MM. Clement Duvernois and Baron Jerome David.

The allusion to the negotiations not being concluded had reference to what had taken place that day at Ems. It appears that not satisfied with the renunciation of Prince Leopold, about which no doubt was entertained at Paris, the French Minister, M. Benedetti, either in consequence of orders from Paris or to make up by zeal for his own previous obtuseness—probably the former—pressed the King to guarantee France against all future pretensions of the same nature. The French Envoy so far forgot his position as to accost the King in the Kurtaal Garden, and pressed his demands in disregard of the forms prescribed by Royal etiquette. King William, thus addressed, turned round and ordered his adjutant to tell M. Benedetti that there was no reply, and that he would not receive him again. According to the German accounts a special letter of apology for this affront was demanded by the French Government from the King.

Meanwhile Paris was blazing with excitement. On Thursday the approaches to the Corps Legislatif were thronged by an anxious crowd agitated by various successive rumours. The Ministers remained in council with the Emperor until very late in the afternoon, and were on the point of starting for the Senate at four p.m., in order to make declarations of the gravest possible character, when a cipher despatch of 1,000 words arrived from M. Benedetti. It had to be translated so it was said, and the Chamber rose without any of the Ministers making their appearance. But the Bourse was in a panic, warlike preparations were being pushed forward with great vigour, bodies of troops were despatched by the Eastern railway, and in the evening there were warlike demonstrations on the Boulevards unchecked by the police, the people marching in the middle of the roadway singing the "Marseillaise" and shouting "Vive la Guerre."

The cause of this mysterious delay was not, it would appear, M. Benedetti's despatch, but the intervention of the Neutral Powers, or, at least, of England. Just as the Ministers were starting for the Chamber, they received a despatch in cypher, containing a proposition for mediation, or for a conference on the part of the British Cabinet. Our Ministry, whose activity has been indefatigable, with the view of maintaining peace at so grave a crisis, offered the Emperor Napoleon a last means of avoiding war, and said

to him in substance—"Withdraw the demand that you have addressed to King William—a demand that he had just declined—and then the neutral Powers will use their utmost efforts at Ems in order that you may obtain from His Prussian Majesty any guarantee that is necessary, in order to render definitive the renunciation of Prince Leopold of Hohenzollern to the throne of Spain." It is stated that this proposal was taken immediately into serious consideration by the Cabinet. But England had not taken account of a hasty step on the part of King William. In fact, while the Imperial Government was deliberating upon the English proposal, it learnt that the Cabinet of Berlin had just notified to its agents accredited to its confederated Governments by means of a telegram the rupture of negotiations between the King of Prussia and M. Benedetti, the refusal of His Majesty to guarantee the renunciation of the Prince of Hohenzollern, and finally, the restoration to the latter of full liberty of action with respect to all ulterior offers which might be made to him on the subject of the crown of Spain. This event out short all negotiations, and during the night of Thursday it was definitely resolved to declare war against Prussia.

The Parisians began to assemble on Friday morning as early as eleven o'clock. It was known that a final Council of Ministers was to be held at St. Cloud at nine, and that the Chamber was to be held at St. Cloud at nine, and that the Chamber was to meet at one to near the Emperor's decision. Long before that time the public tribunes were crammed with notabilities, and the whole place, both inside and outside, was as near a picture of Bedlam broke loose as can be imagined. A military guard surrounded the Chamber, and the mob formed into groups discussing the *pro* and *con* of the French and Prussian armies. Every soldier who happened to pass was the subject of an ovation. The sitting was opened at half-past one o'clock. The Duc de Gramont, in the Senate, and M. Ollivier, in the Corps Legislatif, rose and made the following declaration:—

The reception you gave our declaration of the 12th July proved to us that we might reckon on your support, and on the patriotism of the country. We have since received from almost every foreign Power the assurance that our conduct in all these negotiations was approved of by them. We have demanded nothing from Spain, whose liberty and independence we might have embarrassed; we have demanded nothing from the Prince of Hohenzollern, who was protected by the King of Prussia. Most sovereigns have admitted the legality (*justesse*) of our demands. The Cabinet of Berlin alone replied by a plea of incapacity (*non-recevoir*); we, therefore, applied to the King himself. The King protested that he had been a stranger to the negotiations, but that he had spoken to Count Bismarck about them, and that he had only interfered as head of the family, and not as a sovereign. We could not be satisfied with that answer, nor accept its distinctions. While we were discussing with the King of Prussia we received the news of the renunciation of the Prince of Hohenzollern from the Spanish Embassy. We then charged our ambassador at Berlin to demand from the King if in the case of the same circumstances being renewed, he would oppose them. "Be careful to tell the King," we added, "that we are seeking no pretext for war, and that, in order to avoid a repetition of all difficulty, we demand that for the future no Prince of the Royal family of Prussia shall be a candidate for the Crown of Spain." The King refused to grant our demand, declaring that he reserved to himself the right of consulting circumstances. (Great uproar.) It was in consequence of this, and in spite of our impatience as well as that of the country, that we asked for an adjournment until to-day of the explanations which I have the honour to lay before you. Yesterday, to our great astonishment, we learned that the King, by the means of an aide-de-camp, had notified to our ambassador that he would not receive him. And that, moreover, in order to give to that refusal a more solemn character, all the Cabinets in Europe had been informed of it. (Great uproar and expressions of indignation.) We likewise hear that Prussia is arming. Under these circumstances to attempt fresh negotiations would be a want of patriotism which we cannot admit. We have neglected nothing to avoid war, and are about to accept that which is offered us, leaving to each party his share of the responsibility. We have therefore called out our reserves, and we come to ask your approval and support to safeguard the honour, the interests, and the security of the country." (Long and continued applause.)

As soon as M. Ollivier had finished the above declaration, he demanded a grant of fifty millions of francs for the Ministry of War, which was accorded unanimously with the exception of one vote, namely, that of M. Thiers, who, amidst groans and kisses, tried to explain why he voted against the grant. He contended that France was going to war on a question of form and susceptibility; her principal demand had been accorded. He said:—

I demand, in the face of the country, that you lay before us the despatches which have induced you to take a resolution which amounts to a declaration of war. I know what men are capable of doing when under the influence of feeling. If I had at the present time the honour of directing the affairs of my country—(uproar)—I am not expressing regret, that you know well—I should have allowed an opportunity for reflection before taking so serious a resolution. I regard this war as very imprudent. I was more deeply vexed than any one by the event of 1866. More than any one I desire a reparation, but the occasion is ill-chosen. (Interruption; "Très bien" from the Left.) Yes, when the satisfaction which you had right to demand had been granted, when Prussia had expiated by her withdrawal the grave fault she had committed in stepping beyond the limits of Germany, where lies her strength, and raising hostile pretensions suddenly in our rear; when Europe with honourable readiness declared that you were in the right, then for you to have listened to susceptibilities upon questions of form may cause you one day regret. (Uproar.) (Marquis de Piré: "You are the trumpeter of the disasters of France. Go to Coblenz.") (Renewed uproar.) I repeat, notwithstanding your interruption, that you have ill-chosen the

occasion for a reparation which I desire as much as you may do. (Violent agitation; applause from the Left.) You are wrong in permitting it to be supposed that your resolution is a party resolution. (Uproar. M. Dugue de la Faubonnerie: "It is you who are but a party. We are the nation; we are 270.") I repeat I am ready to vote all the resources which the Government may require when war shall have been declared, but I desire beforehand to be made acquainted with the despatches which have roused your susceptibilities. (Applause and noise.)

M. Thiers called for despatches. M. Ollivier replied that what he had just read was all the Government had to communicate. M. Gambetta thought that the least the Minister could do was to show them the despatch in which Prussia had informed the other courts of the refusal of the King to receive M. Benedetti. M. Ollivier said that the Prussian semi-official prints had published a supplement containing the refusal of the King, which had been posted on the walls of Berlin.

When the renunciation of the Prince of Hohenzollern became known in Prussia, it caused great dissatisfaction among the military party, and it is to conciliate and soothe the feeling of discontent that, instead of happily concluding a negotiation which we did all we could to bring to a satisfactory termination, recourse has been had to this *coup de théâtre*, which we, for our part, are not inclined to accept. From this day springs a great responsibility for my colleagues and myself. ("Yes" from the Left.) We accept it with a light heart. (Exclamations.)

M. Esquiros: You have a light heart, and the blood of nations is about to flow.

M. Ollivier: Yes, with a light heart. Do not play upon the word, and impute to me that I say it with joy. I have told you of my sorrow at being condemned to war. I mean to say with a heart not burdened with remorse, with a confident heart because the war we are about to engage in is forced upon us—

M. E. Arago: You make it.

M. Despreaux: You have provoked it. (Great disorder.)

M. Ollivier: Because we have done all that humanly and honourably was possible in order to prevent it, and finally because our cause is just and it is entrusted to the French army. (Applause.)

The Marquis d'Andelarre (Left Centre) said it was absolutely necessary to have the papers. M. Jules Favre exclaimed, "This is just a repetition of the Mexico affair. Then you told us that you had given all the information in your possession, and you impudently deceived us." M. Ollivier persisting in refusing to produce the papers, M. Gambetta said that the Minister's assertion that he had stated to the House everything essential was manifestly untrue, and was a misprision of the rights of the Chamber. War was declared, M. Ollivier said, because the King of Prussia had informed the Powers of Europe that he declined to grant an audience to the French Ambassador. He demanded to see the despatch justifying this assertion, that the House might see whether the construction put on it by the Government was the correct one. M. Arago said it was obvious that the Government had made up its mind for war *à tout prix*. M. Buffet (the late Minister) joined with M. Thiers and Jules Favre in asking for the papers, and said that, "Before hearing the speech of M. Ollivier, he thought the production of the papers desirable, but after having heard it, he felt the production was necessary." The very large minority of 83 against 164 voted for the production, which the Government refused. Eventually the Minister read two telegrams of M. Benedetti, which, however, contained nothing new to justify the course of the Government:—

M. Thiers: Let all the world judge.

M. de Choiseuil: It is impossible to declare war upon that.

M. Garnier-Pagès: They are but phrases.

M. E. Arago: When this becomes known the civilised world will hold you to be in the wrong. (Noise.) This being known, if you make war it is because you desire it at any price. (Exclamations.)

M. Ollivier: A great humiliation, a check, has been sought to be imposed upon us to serve as a compensation for the withdrawal, in itself inadequate, of the Prince of Hohenzollern. If, now, you are of opinion that we ought to accept this position—that after having excited throughout Europe the emotion of which you are witnesses, we should draw back—do so; it is, at all events, not for us to set a part so little patriotic. When, then, in our history has it been permissible to conspire behind our backs for the elevation of a Prussian Prince to the throne of Spain? That sole fact would have warranted the most energetic resolutions; but we confined ourselves to negotiation. Our requirements have not been excessive. We only demanded an assurance for the future.

Marshal Leboeuf then presented two bills, one for calling out the Garde Mobile, and another for authorising engagements whose term should not exceed the limit of the war. Both were immediately adopted. M. Segrès next demanded a grant of sixteen millions for the Ministry of Marine. This was also accorded without discussion.

At the night sitting which took place to discuss and vote some "urgent" measures, the Marquis de Talhouet stated that the Government had shown to the committee some of the papers which it had refused to produce to the House, and that they were perfectly satisfactory. Therefore the subsidy of fifty millions demanded for the preliminary expenses of the war was voted with only ten dissentient votes. The men who refused the war supplies were MM. Arago, Despreaux, Esquiros, Jules Favre, Gagneur, Garnier-Pagès, Grevy, Glais-Bizoin, Ordinaire, and Pelletan. A motion authorising the enlistment of volunteers for the duration of war was adopted by 244 votes against one. After this the House rose.

In the Senate the Duke de Gramont made a similar declaration to that of M. Ollivier in the Corps Législatif, and he was received with most enthusiastic

manifestations. On leaving the Luxembourg, the Senators were surrounded by a crowd of students and others, shouting, "Vive l'Empereur!" "Vive la guerre!" "A bas Prusse!" M. Ollivier was enthusiastically received by an immense majority of the deputies and by the crowd assembled outside.

In Monday's sitting of the Legislative Body the Government brought forward bills granting supplementary credits of 440,000,000 francs for the Ministry of War, 70,000,000 francs for the Ministry of Marine, and 5,000,000 francs for the Ministry of Finance; raising from 150,000,000 francs to 500,000,000 francs the *maximum* of the issue of Treasury Bonds; authorising the Deputies to take service in the Garde National Mobile as officers, and prohibiting the publication of intelligence relative to the military operations. These bills were declared urgent. It was announced that the Ministry would render a special account of the war expenses. M. Segrès also presented a bill re-establishing the second war *decime* and reimposing the former duties on coffee and cocoa, whereby that on coffee is raised to 100 francs and 105 francs, and that on cocoa in the same proportion. Urgency was voted for this bill.

Count Wimpfen left for Berlin on Monday with the French declaration of war against Prussia.

RECEPTION OF THE FRENCH SENATORS BY THE EMPEROR.

At Saturday's reception of the members of the Senate by the Emperor at St. Cloud, M. Rouher, addressing His Majesty, said:—"The guarantees demanded from Prussia have been refused, and the dignity of France has been disregarded. Your Majesty draws the sword, and the country is with you, trembling with indignation at the excesses that an ambition over-excited by one day's good fortune was sure, sooner or later, to produce. Your Majesty was able to wait, but has occupied the last four years in perfecting the armament and the organisation of the army." M. Rouher added he ventured to hope that the Empress would again act as Regent, and that the Emperor would take the command of the army. The Emperor replied:—

Messieurs les Sénateurs.—I was gratified to learn with what great enthusiasm the Senate received the declaration which the Minister of Foreign Affairs had been instructed to make. Whenever great interests and the honour of France are at stake I am sure to receive energetic support from the Senate. We are beginning a serious struggle, and France needs the co-operation of all her children. I am very glad that the first patriotic utterance has come from the Senate. It will be loudly re-echoed throughout the country.

PUBLIC FEELING IN FRANCE.

Bands of students and workmen late on Thursday night and early next morning paraded the city singing military and national songs. Several bands, however, forgot themselves so far as to make a demonstration in front of the Prussian Embassy, and it was even proposed to tear down the gates. At this critical juncture Count Daru, ex-Foreign Minister, who resides in the same street as M. de Werther, made his appearance and harangued the mob; he implored his countrymen not to commit a gross outrage on the representative of a Foreign Power. He was aided by the maire of the arrondissement, and the people, after some hesitation, retired, singing the "Marseillaise," and shouting, "A bas Bismarck!" "A bas la Prusse!" "Au Rhin!" &c. On Friday every one who has ventured to say a word in favour of peace has been mobbed and hustled. While the Boulevards were thickly lined with people waiting for news from the Chambers, the sound of drums was heard playing a funeral march, and the coffin of Admiral Jaurès was borne along in state between files of men of the 69th Regiment with arms reversed. The crowd uncovered in respectful silence and remained gloomy for a moment. "Second edition of the *Constitutionnel*!" shouted a newspaper vendor, engaged in supplying the kiosks, and the dead admiral was forgotten. The second edition of the semi-official paper left no room for doubt; it declared war, and the mob welcomed the tidings with shouts and clamour. Directly M. Ollivier had spoken in the Corps Législatif there was a rush made to the Bourse, gentlemen tucking their coat tails under their arms to run with more agility. Curiously enough, Rentes went up on the declaration of war. M. de Werther's retreat from Paris was protected by strong bodies of police.

The populace appeared at one moment on the point of playing M. Thiers a nasty trick in consequence of his speech condemning the conduct of the Government. The gates of his residence in the Rue St. George's, fortunately for the ex-Minister of Louis Philippe, were found solid, and a detachment of police was on the look-out to prevent mischief.

A notice issued by the Prefect of Police expresses a desire that the patriotic manifestations in the streets should cease, and that the capital should express the confidence felt by the calmness of its demeanour.

The *Liberté* says the Parisians have had quite enough of patriotic shouting in the streets and singing of the "Marseillaise." This is all very well, it says, but it is time to look facts in the face, and when these are accomplished they may sing as much as they please; the offices for volunteers are open, and now that the patriots have sung so well they had better go and enrol themselves.

On Saturday and Sunday nights also the streets were crowded. Intense excitement and enthusiasm prevailed at the troops passing. Any solitary soldier received an ovation, and was offered drink, &c. The "Marseillaise" is now the popular song with troops and people alike. Previous to Herr von Werther's departure the secretary of the Duke de Gramont expressed the regret of

the Government at the hostile manifestation which occurred last night at the Prussian Embassy.

According to the *Constitutionnel*, patriotic manifestations have occurred in different towns of France, and especially at Perpignan, Nîmes, Lille, Tarbes, Nancy, Amiens, Dijon, and Havre. On each occasion of the departure of regiments they received an ovation from the people.

The *Débats*, *Siccle*, and *Temps* deplore the impatience and intolerance of the majority in the Legislative Body, which approved the policy of the Government without even wishing for proper information, but say that war being declared, it must be energetically conducted, and the country must make all sacrifices required by the present circumstances. The Republican journal *La Cloche* bitterly reproaches the Empire, which, while promising peace, is incessantly leading the country into war, and says that it cannot find a shadow of pretext for the war. The *Rappel* strongly attacks the conduct of the Government from first to last, and says, "The Left nobly performed their duty. The Left is severe upon the faults of the Government, but passionately jealous of the honour of France." M. Rochefort has written, in a letter addressed from prison to his constituents, the following sentence:—"Every war that has not for its object the strict defence of the national frontiers is but a series of murders." That formidable society of the working men of all nations which was lately arraigned by the French Government as a secret and subversive association, and acquitted on that count, but stigmatised by the judges for its "destructive" theories, has, through its French committee, protested against the fratricidal conflict into which the Emperor is dragging France, in the hope of baptizing his son in the Rhine. And all the Masonic lodges which in France are accustomed to take a part in the discussion of public affairs, have declared against this wanton and wicked barbarity, as a piratical attack upon a neighbouring people without a decent or colourable pretext; and one which, even if the aggressor be victorious, must turn the victory to his own enslavement and disgrace.

The *Times* French correspondent asserts the essential peacefulness of the bulk of the French population:—

In all my dealings with our peasants I have never seen even a pretence of liking war. They do not affect to disguise their horror of fighting. "A bad number" is the one great dread of all our village lads when that fatal twentieth year approaches. It underlies the fate of every rustic home. Until the conscription is past, no plan of life can be formed, no hope can be safely indulged. Those who see our conscripts, with their tricolour ribbons streaming from their hats, parading arm in arm through the streets and singing patriotic songs, see them when they are more than half drunk. But they can have no idea of the undisguised grief with which the poor boys have learnt their fate a few hours before, or of the desolated homes they have left behind.

A letter from Paris in the *Echo* says:—

The aspect of the town now is very curious. In every street you see groups of young men who have been called out, bidding their friends adieu. The *cafés* and wineries are thronged, and business is virtually suspended. I passed through the Place Vendôme this morning at eight o'clock. It was crammed with miscellaneous groups of chasseurs, marines, cavalry, and zouaves, getting their papers from head-quarters. Some of them carry a small trunk of household goods, but the majority have nothing but their kit. I went into a *café* close by, to listen to the conversation. Very few spoke of the coming deadly struggle, and those who did entertain the subject seemed to think it would be hard work. All were talking about their friends, their comrades, their past and future captains. A casual friend of mine entered. It was the first time I had seen him in military uniform. He told me his case. He had got eighteen months more to serve. He had been sent home on furlough, and got married only a month ago, and is now obliged to leave his young wife without any resource or protection. And this is no isolated case; I know of many more even worse. As I left the *café* I could not help thinking how many of the men there were taking their last glass of beer in Paris.

THE KING OF PRUSSIA AND M. BENEDETTI.

The Berlin correspondent of the *Times* thus narrates in detail what passed between King William and M. Benedetti at Ems:—

To acquit himself of the ungracious message he had been instructed to deliver, the French Ambassador thought it decent to stop His Majesty as he was walking in the public gardens at Ems. There, in an alley filled with the pleasure-seekers of a German spa, with fashionable ladies and gentlemen gossiping at a few paces, and the eyes of the whole elegant and curious crowd fixed upon them, the representative of France accosted the King of Prussia. Was he instructed to dispense with the ordinary forms of diplomatic intercourse? Or was the disregard of ceremony so painfully remarkable in his behaviour a blunder inadvertently committed by Count Benedetti, not an insult designedly planned and ordered by his Government? On an occasion of such vital importance it is difficult to believe that proper respect is waived except by design. However that may be, the King, finding an exorbitant demand put to him in a most unbecoming manner, had to deal with the fact of the offence, not to examine into its cause. He acquitted himself of the duty of the moment in the dignified and gentlemanly style for which he is noted. Quietly turning round to his adjutant, Lieutenant Colonel Count Lehnndorf, who had retired a few steps when he saw the Ambassador approach, the King said:—"Be kind enough to inform Count Benedetti that there is no reply, and that I cannot receive him again." While Count Lehnndorf was doing his bidding, the King walked off. The gay crowd around stood aghast. They had seen enough to know that something serious must have happened; yet they were not prepared for the stunning reports that soon began to fly about.

The King immediately caused the affair to be telegraphed to Count Bismarck, who lost no time in publishing it. At 9 p.m. newsboys were to be seen in great

numbers in the principal thoroughfares, distributing gratis a special supplement to the *Norddeutsche Zeitung*. It contained a short paragraph, relating in unpretending language and without any remark what had occurred. The effect this bit of printed paper had upon the town was tremendous. It was hailed by old and young. It was welcomed by fathers of families and boys in their teens. It was read and re-read by ladies and young girls, and in patriotic glow finally handed over to the servants, who fondly hoped their sweethearts would be on the march by this time. As though a stain had been wiped out from the national escutcheon, as though a burden, too heavy to be borne for a long time past, had been cast off at last, people were thanking God that their honour had been ultimately vindicated against intolerable assumption. There was but one opinion as to the manly and worthy conduct of the King; there was but one determination to follow his example, and take up the gauntlet flung into their face.

THE KING OF PRUSSIA AND THE GERMANS.

On Friday King William arrived at Cassel (the capital of Hesse Cassel), and was enthusiastically received by the authorities and the people. The Burgomaster presented an address of devotion to His Majesty. The King replied by expressing his joy that the capital of a new Prussian province should display such patriotic feelings. His Majesty continued his journey amidst cheers from the thousands assembled at the station.

At Coblenz the King was present at a public concert, and was received with warlike cries. His Majesty addressed the assembly and expressed his satisfaction at his reception.

King William arrived at his palace in Berlin shortly after nine o'clock on Thursday night, and was received with the greatest possible loyalty and warmth. Upwards of 100,000 persons were assembled (the telegram states) from the railway station at the Brandenburg Gate to the palace, cheering and singing the National Anthem. The Unter den Linden was illuminated and decorated with the North German and Prussian flags. King William came forward repeatedly to the windows of the Palace, saluting and thanking the crowd. Public feeling (the despatch adds) is most enthusiastic and determined. Addresses have been received by the King from the merchants of Bremen and Stettin, expressing readiness to make the utmost sacrifices for the defence of the country, and giving approval to the most energetic steps that may be taken for the preservation of the national honour.

The following is the King of Prussia's reply to an address received from the Commercial Chamber at Hamburg:—

With heartfelt emotion I receive at this moment the telegram of the Commercial Chamber of to-day's date. No one knows better than I, who had to speak the decisive word, what sacrifices will shortly be required from the whole Fatherland; but the self-devotion expressed by the Commercial Chambers the moment the honour of Germany is at stake fills me with pride and tranquillity. On God's blessing all things depend.

WILHELM REX.

The utmost enthusiasm prevails here (says a Hamburg telegram), as throughout Germany, against France. The whole of Germany is as one people in arms to repel the insult offered to the national honour.

With regard to the Southern States, the Berlin correspondent of the *Times*, writing on the 14th says:—"It is all but certain that the South German States will stand by Prussia. Bavaria and Baden tendered an all but unqualified promise even before the scene in the Kurgarten at Ems. Würtemberg, which wavered till yesterday, has, after the latest proceedings of France, hastened to give in her adhesion to Berlin. National feeling is too strong even for the Würtemberg Government, and that is saying a great deal."

This view is confirmed by subsequent news. A telegram from Bavaria says:—"The co-operation of the Bavarian army with that of North Germany will commence at once." A Munich telegram of Sunday says:—"An immense crowd went this afternoon to the King's palace, notwithstanding the rain, and expressed their gratitude for his most recent patriotic resolution, and his fidelity to his confederate duties, and gave numberless cheers to His Majesty." The multitude uncovering their heads, sang popular hymns, and Arndt's song, 'Was ist des Deutschen Vaterland.' The King, with visible emotion, bowed frequently from the open window." The armies of Würtemberg and Saxony have been ordered to be placed on a war footing.

A Frankfurt telegram, dated Sunday, says:—"The French Government have sent a threatening message to the South German Governments, demanding that they should forward within twenty-four hours a declaration whether they intend to remain neutral."

On Monday the town councillors presented an address to the King at noon, thanking His Majesty for having repelled the unheard-of attempt made upon the dignity and independence of the nation, and asserting that France having declared war against Prussia, every man will do his duty. The address says that, however desirous Germany might be to carry out the work of peace, no sacrifice will be considered too heavy to oppose the present rapacious attack upon the independence of the Fatherland. Prussia enters, in unison with Germany, upon a war to which she has been provoked by foreign arrogance. The address concludes by stating that it is presented as evidence of the entire devotion to duty, and of the spirited feeling pervading the nation.

The King, in reply, expressed his gratitude for the sentiments contained in the address, and said:—

God knows I am not answerable for this war. The demand sent me I could not do otherwise than reject. My reply gained the approval of all the towns and provinces, the expression of which I have received from all parts of Germany, and even from Germans residing

beyond the seas. The greeting which was given me here on Friday last animated me with pride and confidence. Heavy sacrifices will be demanded of my people. We have been rendered unaccustomed to them by the quickly-gained victories which we achieved in the last two wars. We shall not get off so cheaply this time; but I know what I may expect from my army and from those now hastening to join the ranks. The instrument is sharp and cutting. The result is in the hands of God. I know also what I may expect from those who are called upon to alleviate the wounds—the pains and sufferings which war entails. In conclusion, I beg you to express thanks to the citizens for the reception they have given me.

At the termination of the King's address the Assembly, with great enthusiasm, shouted unanimously, "Long live the King."

A correspondent, writing from Bonn on the 16th instant, says:—"Last night more than 1,000 students, being the entire number in the town belonging to the University here, presented themselves before the authorities, and asked that they might be instantly enrolled in the defence of the country. Public feeling is serious, but firm. Men, women, and children are devoted to the defence of the Fatherland."

A Cologne telegram of Sunday says the Prussian troops are pouring into the Rhenish provinces belonging to Prussia. All the public buildings and even the churches are converted into barracks. Cologne is about to be placed in a state of siege, whilst the garrison of Aix-la-Chapelle has been reduced.

A telegram received from Paris says:—"The Envoy of Hesse-Darmstadt at this court has been ordered by his Government to demand his passports. He will do this immediately, and proceed home on the 20th."

The Berlin correspondent of the *Times* declares that the Germans will meet their enemies in a spirit becoming the magnitude of the stake. He writes:—

Thanks to the incessant provocations of the French Government, they have been thoroughly warmed to the work in hand. Since 1840, when M. Thiers asked for the Rhine frontier, they have by all the successive Governments of France been treated as a people whose political insignificance must be prolonged at any cost, if France was to be happy. They have long patiently endured the taunts and the wrongs inflicted by their neighbours. As is their habit, they did not much complain, while unable to secure redress. Of late they had hoped that in their steady progress towards unity they had already become too formidable to be wantonly attacked. They were also too confident in the civilised spirit of the age to suppose a nation like the French would resort to bloodshed to prevent its neighbours from arranging their own concerns. Seeing that they have been mistaken in both these assumptions, they feel that a day of reckoning has come, and will do their duty with a will. As proud and patriotic men they are resolved to avenge the past and make the future secure; as peaceful, industrial, and cultivated citizens they cannot help looking upon the legions assembling on their frontiers as upon barbarians preparing for a razzia.

One determination to ward off and punish this crying sin prevails in all parts of Germany. In the North it is a stern desire for action; in the excitable South the feeling is a more fiery one, and if not universal, it pervades such a vast majority of the people as to impose all but absolute silence upon the Ultramontanes, the Republicans, and other fractions of the anti-Union party. Whatever remembrances of 1866 may have been lingering in men's minds, they are now submerged in a common hatred of the insulting foreigner. Carried away by the current, the Bavarian, Wurtemberg, and Baden Governments have already announced their formal resolution to stand with Prussia, and join the Northern Confederacy for better or worse. The Federal Parliament has been convened for the 21st inst. Government will ask for authority to contract a loan. Any amount will be forthcoming here.

EXPLANATION FROM PRUSSIA.

The official *Staats Anzeiger* publishes under reservation of further communication two official documents in order to explain certain statements put forward by the French Ministers in the sitting of the Legislative Body held on the 15th of July. The first document, which has been drawn up under the immediate superintendence of the King himself, states that M. Benedetti demanded on the 9th of July that the King should order the hereditary Prince of Hohenzollern to withdraw his acceptance of the Spanish Crown. The King, however, declared that not having ordered the Prince to accept the Crown, he could not order him to renounce it. In a second audience on the 11th of July, M. Benedetti endeavoured to put some pressure upon the King, demanding that he should impress upon the Prince the necessity of renunciation, but His Majesty replied that the Prince was free to act, and also was abroad. On the public promenade at Ems, on the 18th of July, the King handed to M. Benedetti an extra sheet of the *Cologne Gazette*, containing a private telegram in reference to a renunciation of the Prince of Hohenzollern; His Majesty adding at the same time that he himself had not yet received any letter from Sigmaringen on the matter in question. Thereupon, M. Benedetti declared that what he meant was a renunciation, and asked on the part of Prussia that the King should distinctly promise never again to consent to the candidature in question. His Majesty firmly declined to comply with this demand, but M. Benedetti nevertheless insisted upon a third audience in order to resume the topic. The King refused to grant this audience, on the ground that no further reply was necessary, and that all negotiations should pass through the hands of his Cabinet. The wish expressed by M. Benedetti to leave was granted by the King, and on his journey to Coblenz, in going to the station, His Majesty courteously saluted M. Benedetti. The second document contains a report by Prince Radziwill, aide-de-

camp to the King, in reference to the manner in which he intimated to M. Benedetti the King's message declining another audience. The document declares that the whole of the audiences in question were merely of the character of private conversations, since M. Benedetti never stated that he acted by authorisation or as negotiator. The *Staats Anzeiger* says, in conclusion, that the French Government was well aware that Baron Werther was not recalled from Paris, but had merely received leave of absence, and had delegated his functions to Count Solms-Sonnenwalde, as on former occasions, and that he informed the Government of the matter.

The public demand by M. Benedetti at Ems was not the only insult that was offered to the King. On the 12th of July the Duc de Gramont told Baron Werther that France insisted upon the King of Prussia publishing a letter to the Emperor, and asking his pardon, and that no allusion must be made in the letter to the fact of the Catholic Hohenzollerns being near relations of the Bonapartes. Baron Werther declined to communicate the message.

THE WARLIKE PREPARATIONS.

The Emperor of the French was expected to leave for Metz on Wednesday, accompanied by the Prince Imperial, who is to be attended by only one officer and a valet. His Highness is not to play at soldiers, but to receive the education of a Prince, so says Napoleon III. Marshal Bazaine left Paris on Sunday night to take command of the 3rd Corps, 80,000 strong, and composed for the most part of the Army of Paris. The Duke of Magenta, who is to command the 1st Corps, is expected from Algeria, whence 16,000 troops are to be withdrawn. A considerable part of them have already arrived at Marseilles. The 2nd Corps, consisting of the Châlons divisions, is to be commanded by General Frossard; the 4th by General Ladmirault, the 5th by General de Failly, the 6th by Marshal Canrobert; the 7th, composed of troops drawn from Algeria, by General Douay, who is very highly thought of. General Bourbaki takes the command of the Imperial Guard, which was to precede the Emperor by twenty-four hours. Among the generals of division figures the name of General Trochu. General Changarnier, agreeing to overlook the *coup d'état*, offers his services to the Empire. He is seventy-seven years old. It is stated that General Lebœuf will be created a Major-General in the army, M. Frossard acting as Minister of War.

The Navy Department is equally active. It is reported that three squadrons are to be formed—one for the Baltic, under Admiral Bouet Willaumez; another for ocean service, under Admiral Jurien de la Gravière; and a third, for the Mediterranean, whose commander is not yet known. The whole military press of North Germany are to be at once mobilized. Prince Charles will be commander-in-chief of the German armies, and the Crown Prince will command in South Germany.

It is stated that gunboats will co-operate in the action of French troops on the Rhine—that is, portable gunboats, which can be taken to pieces.

It is said that the people of Baden have destroyed the German end of the bridge at Kehl.

On Saturday a telegram was received in Newcastle intimating that the French Government had given notice that the Elbe will be blockaded.

The *Constitutionnel* says that the number of volunteers already enlisted in Paris exceeds 10,000.

The Berlin correspondent of the *Times* says that the German army comprises 315,000 line, 300,000 reserve, and 330,000 landwehr, to which must be added 80,000 southerners at the lowest computation. All these figures giving a grand total of 1,025,000 men, represent drilled and practised soldiers, effective and ready for service. The estimates on paper are much higher.

Prince Adalbert of Prussia is to take the command of the North German fleet.

With melodramatic effect M. Rouher announced in the Senate on Saturday, that the sacred territory of France had already been violated. The Prussians did indeed cross the frontier near Thionville, a little town on the river Moselle, in the department of Moselle, on the north-east frontier. The Prussians were said to be engaged in tearing up the railway to Luxemburg, but the *Constitutionnel* declares that the invading force was really only a scouting party, which soon retired.

The French (says the *Pall Mall Gazette*) have now on their list of ironclads fifty-one vessels; forty-five of these are finished and at sea, or could be at sea within a month, six are building and not likely to be finished within the next two years. Of these vessels no fewer than thirty-six are wooden vessels razed and plated with armour; only eleven are built entirely of iron; only one, the *Marengo*, is composite, with a frame of iron and sides of wood coated with armour. The most costly French-built vessel is the *Couronne*, which cost for hull and fittings 191,000*l.* The most costly in the whole fleet is the *Rochambeau* (late the *Donderberg*), which the French bought from the United States in 1867, paying 480,000*l.* for her, of which amount 440,000*l.* is to this day regretted in French nautical circles. With the *Donderberg* came also the *Onondaga*, which was cheap at 80,000*l.* The three most formidable vessels which the French have ever planned are the *Colbert*, *Trident*, and *Richelieu*, which were begun last December at Toulon. The first two are sister-ships, of 8,314 tons, 320 feet long, coated with eight-inch armour, and intended at present to carry thirty ponderous guns. The *Richelieu* is to be of the same length and armour, but of 7,180 tons. These vessels will be larger than any ironclads ever yet projected. The *Victorieuse*, another great ironclad, of more than 4,000 tons, figures in the French list, but this has only been ordered, and not yet

begun. *La Galissonnière*, too, is very backward in its progress, and will take more than another year to finish. Of the French fleet, eleven are under 1,200 tons, fourteen under 3,000, and fourteen over 3,000, but under 5,000. Taking the mean average of the speed of all on trial trips, it gives scarcely 10 knots, the highest, the *Marengo*, giving only 14.5, and some as low as 7 knots. The average armour plating of the French vessels is 5½ inches, ranging from 4 inches to 8½ inches. The thickest armour, however, is a mere belt above and below the water line, and none of the French vessels have the powerful armoured bulkhead across the stem and stern to save them from a raking fire, under which they would fall easy victims to an active enemy. The greatest weight of armour which the largest class of French vessels carry is 1,800 tons, and the smallest 279 tons, and the greatest number of guns is 14.

THE COMING CAMPAIGN.

The Paris *Liberté* says that the plan of the campaign is to make a rapid advance in Hesse in order to neutralise the South German States; occupy and fortify Frankfurt; sweep the Prussian territory on the left bank of the Rhine; then enter Westphalia; and, being supported by Hanover and Denmark, drive the Prussians beyond the Elbe; and subsequently, as after the battle of Friedland, reconstruct the German Confederation, to the exclusion of Austria and Prussia.

The Berlin correspondent of the *Daily News*, writing on Friday, says:—"The plan of the campaign is openly spoken of even by such as really ought to know something of it. But this is always the case here, and can hardly be otherwise, where the voluntary co-operation of the whole people is expected. It consists in a simultaneous advance of the whole army, without the reserves, towards the French frontier. The four main railroads leading from the Elbe to the Rhine will then be altogether stopped for private traffic during the days destined to the conveyance of troops. It is supposed that each of these railways can convey 20,000 soldiers a day. The locomotives and waggons returning next day, 20,000 again may be conveyed on the same railway the third day, when they will have collected at the stations in the East, or will have been echeloned along the line. Thus the 240,000 men of the North German army, now in garrisons east of the Rhine, will be on the banks of that river on the fifth day after the commencement of the movement. The reserves will follow as they come in, which, in Prussia, is very quickly. The Landwehr, this time not destined to act on the aggressive, will fill up the garrisons. Thus the advance from the Rhine, which will be crossed at Cologne, Coblenz, and Mayence, by the permanent railway bridges, will be made with 30,000 men complete, followed by 100,000, who will gradually fall in with their cadres. The advance will be concentric upon Paris, unhesitating and unceasing, until the French are met. Neither an attack from the sea, nor a French diversion in Southern Germany, will be heeded. The strategical part of the war is considered here much easier than it was in the Austrian campaign, when the Austrians and Saxons sought refuge in the natural fortress of Bohemia, which had to be invaded by mountain passes before the great battle and the final march upon Vienna could take place. It is supposed, in fact known, that Austria will remain neutral if Russia does. Russia probably will. If, however, Austria does not, neither will Russia. And then there would be simply two wars, a Franco-German one and a Russo-Austrian one; the latter undoubtedly of slow progress, and thus not interfering with the other. For the Franco-German war would be far more rapidly brought to an end than a Russo-Austrian one."

Viscount de Borelli, accompanied by his secretary and suite, arrived in Hull on Monday night, and sailed yesterday morning for Copenhagen in the Danish steamer *Phoenix*. From Copenhagen the Viscount will proceed to Stockholm to join the French fleet, of which it is expected he will assume the command.

A telegram to the *Daily News* states that General Lebœuf has given orders that no newspaper correspondents are to be allowed to follow the French army. This rule will not be relaxed even in favour of French correspondents.

It is stated that several hundred Hanoverians have joined the French army as volunteers.

THE NEUTRAL POWERS.

It is stated that the English Government are prepared, while avoiding intervention in the war, to take an attitude of careful observation, and that there will be no hesitation on their part in vindicating the rights and position of neutrals, if they should be menaced by either side.

Austria is to remain neutral unless a third Power should intervene. But Austria has established a permanent camp in the neighbourhood of the Prussian frontier. During a war between France and Prussia, the latter, in the present state of her relations to Austria, would be obliged to watch the newly-formed camp. If this did not lead to a direct quarrel, it would at any rate have the effect of keeping a large Prussian force occupied, and away from the main body fighting the French. The *Military Gazette* of Vienna publishes an article strongly recommending an alliance between Austria and France. "The victory of France," it says, "means the existence of Austria; the victory of Prussia means the dismemberment of Austria."

With regard to Russia little positive is known, except that Prince Gortschakoff has been at Ems with King William. The Russian inspired papers have had but little to say upon the question of the day, though what they did say was hostile to Prussia. On the other hand, *Le*

Nord (published at Brussels) strongly condemns the attitude assumed by France towards Prussia. The latter country, it says, has done all it could do with any regard to its own honour and self-respect to meet the haughty exactions of France, and France will find opposed to her almost unanimously the public opinion of Europe.

From Belgium we learn that the Government is taking energetic measures to preserve the neutrality of the kingdom. The camp of Beverloo, which was to have been broken up, is to be maintained, the soldiers on leave are being called in, and two *corps d'armée*, the one of two, and the other of three divisions, are forming. The first thing doing by the Belgian military authorities is the interruption of the railway lines of the East and South, so that certain strategical lines may not be made use of by either belligerent. The *Francis* asserts that France informed Belgium that her neutrality would be respected by France if the Belgians showed themselves strong enough to ensure respect by Prussia, adding, however, that if a single Prussian soldier should enter Belgium the French army would cross the frontier. The same journal protests against the language of the *France* towards Belgium as calculated to increase the already existing coolness and dissent of England, and says that France has the greatest interest to respect English susceptibility on this point. It is stated in a Paris telegram that the Duke de Gramont has informed Lord Lyons and the Belgian Minister at the Court of the Tuileries that the neutrality of Belgium will be respected, even strategically, by the French Government.

Holland is arming to protect her neutrality. Spain will also remain neutral. The Swiss Federal Council has ordered five divisions of the Federal army to be placed on a war footing to protect Swiss neutrality. The French Cabinet has requested the Italian Government to state what attitude Italy intends to assume in the pending events. As the Ministerial journal, *Le Peuple Français*, denies the reported intention of the Government to withdraw its troops from the Roman States, the anti-French demonstration at Florence on Saturday may be accounted for. The Prussians have torn up the rails on the frontier of Luxemburg. France has announced, it is said, that she will not take the initiative in violating the neutrality of the Grand Duchy.

Baron F. de Gerolt, the Prussian Envoy at Washington, was instructed by his Government to inquire of the United States whether vessels carrying the Prussian flag, but partly owned by Americans, would be allowed to carry the American flag. The Government inclined to it, but Congress must pass a law before it can be done. The President sent a special message to Congress, indicating a desire for them to make an appropriation for the purchase of the German mail-steamers carrying the American mails, and to take any other action rendered necessary by war. Bills were reported, in accordance with the President's recommendation, authorising the purchase of foreign steam-vessels, but they failed to pass, and Congress adjourned till December 5. It is rumoured that an extra session will be convened. A despatch announcing the declaration of war between France and Prussia was read to the House of Representatives by the Speaker. A number of the members applauded.

It is reported from Copenhagen that Denmark will be neutral in the war. But we are told that the army assembled in Jutland for the great manoeuvres of the year, illuminated at its quarters-general of Hald and Wiborg on the news of the declaration made to the French Legislative Body. At Copenhagen frequent interviews have taken place between the French representative and M. de Rosenorn, the new Minister for Foreign Affairs.

THE PRUSSIAN AND FRENCH MEN-OF-WAR IN THE CHANNEL.

The Prussian squadron of four ironclads, including the King William (originally built for the Turks at the Thames Ironworks, but subsequently purchased by the Prussians), under the command of Prince Adalbert, instead of proceeding to Madeira from Plymouth, returned to that port, and left on Wednesday for the eastward. The squadron arrived off Dover on Thursday, and having taken pilots on board, the ships proceeded to the Downs, where they anchored for the night. The next morning a messenger arrived at Dover from London, and proceeded in a carriage to Deal, and thence on board the Admiral's ship, after which the squadron immediately unmoored and proceeded with all speed to Kiel. The Dover Trinity pilot left the Prussian squadron off Orfordness. The Prussian ships had evidently been watched by a French man-of-war, and tracked up Channel, for the Imperial screw French despatch vessel *L'Hirondelle* came into Dover Bay on Friday morning, and during the day the Commander made himself acquainted with the movements of the Prussian squadron, and sent despatches to his Government. *L'Hirondelle* remained in Dover Bay until yesterday noon, when, having received some communication from a boat from Calais, she got up stream and proceeded, following up the Prussians' track.

It is reported that the French fleet are expected to pass Dover. A squadron will rendezvous at Dunkirk, which port last year the French ironclads visited, and preparations were then made for the embarkation of 50,000 men in the shortest possible time.

ENGLAND AND THE BELLIGERENTS.

We are informed, says the *Times*, that, in the prospect of so great a calamity as a war between France and Germany, Her Majesty's Government has thought fit to remind the belligerents of the obligations undertaken by the Treaty of 1856, and to tender its

mediation. The answer is that France declines mediation.

The declaration of war has excited much interest at the English seaports. It has utterly paralysed the shipping trade between the Wear and the German and French ports. A large carrying trade in coals and manufactures has been carried on, more particularly in the Baltic ports, and a considerable portion of this has been in German vessels. Nearly fifty were loading at Sunderland on Friday, when M. Wierer, the North German consul, received a telegram of the declaration of war, which he at once communicated to every captain of German ships. Some were ready for sea, but delayed proceeding until they had instructions. It was known that two French gunboats were on the North-East coast, as usual, protecting the French fishermen, and the probabilities were that, instead of looking after the fishery, they might attack and capture any North German vessel they might meet. The French vessels at Sunderland are not so numerous as the Germans. Intelligence has been received at Southampton that a French frigate is cruising between St. Alban's Head and the Needles. The Bremen steamer *Leipais*, carrying the Prussian flag, which left the docks on Saturday with passengers and cargo, bound for Baltimore, was detained in Southampton Water. The passengers and cargo will be re-landed, and forwarded to the United States *via* Liverpool. The Union Company's steamer *Dane* has been suddenly and secretly chartered, and left with sealed orders. Large quantities of preserved provisions for ships' stores are passing over the South-Western Railway on their way from this port to Cherbourg. No Prussian or French ship can be attacked or captured within three leagues of this coast, and if Prussian and French ships of war enter Southampton Water, the ships of one nation can only leave after an interval of twenty-four hours has elapsed from the departure of the ships of the other nation.

At Newport, Cardiff, and the other South Wales ports, there is a large number of French and German vessels, of the former more particularly, and the announcement of a declaration of war was received with the greatest astonishment on Friday evening. The German consuls and vice-consuls at the ports received telegrams directing all the Germans to return home immediately, and in obedience to this command the masters and crews of many of the ships have already commenced their journey to Fatherland. Their vessels are left behind, and will no doubt remain where they are until the war is over. The movements of French vessels are not as yet so restricted, owing to the supposed superiority of their fleet, and also of the short run to several of the French ports.

(Continued on page 690.)

Postscript.

Wednesday, July 20th, 1870.

THE WAR.

(From the *Times*.)

A rumour of some authority reached London late this morning that hostilities had been begun by the French near Forbach.

FRANCE.

PARIS, July 19.

The day of the Emperor's departure to take command of the army is still uncertain. At a military dinner given at St. Cloud last night His Majesty evaded all questions on the subject. An orderly officer of the Emperor and an aide-de-camp of General Lebœuf left last night with sealed instructions for Marshal Bazaine and Generals Faily and Lamirault, which are to be acted upon simultaneously with the public proclamation of the declaration of war. Within the next four days 850,000 men will be assembled between Strasbourg, Metz, Nancy, and Birtsch (Bitche). Three army corps are now echeloned along the Eastern frontier. Public subscriptions for the relief of the families of soldiers, and for supplying comforts to the soldiers on service, and to succour the wounded, are coming in liberally from all parts of France.

The *Journal Officiel* of this evening publishes an article in which it draws attention to the intimate understanding existing between the Emperor, the Chambers, the Ministry, and the whole of France. It recalls the moderation of France, which never, since 1866, has raised any discussion as to the enforcement of the Treaty of Prague, and the audacious encroachments made by Prussia to annul the independence of the South German States. The article remarks that the demands made by France relative to the Hohenzollern affair were moderate, while the rupture of the negotiations by Prussia was haughty in the extreme. It points out the offending character of the proceedings of Prussia, and concludes by declaring that France can only look to God and to her courage for the triumph of her cause. The *Mémorial Diplomatique* states that the English efforts at mediation are supported by Russia, and are still being continued. The *Presse* says that the French Ministers at Baden, Saxony, Bavaria, and Hesse have been summoned to Paris to give information respecting the attitude of those States in the Franco-Prussian War. The same journal complains of the tone of the observations of Mr. Disraeli and the

speech of Mr. Gladstone towards France, and adds:—"France demands nothing of England but loyal, sincere neutrality." The *France* announces that three Prussian agents have been arrested in Paris, and have been requested to leave France.

OPENING OF THE NORTH GERMAN PARLIAMENT.

The North German Parliament was opened yesterday by the King of Prussia in person. His Majesty, in his speech from the throne, said that the Emperor of the French had used the candidature of the Prince of Hohenzollern as a pretext for war, had put it forward in a manner long since unknown in diplomatic intercourse, and had adhered to it even after the pretext itself had been withdrawn. If in former days divided Germany bore in silence such violation of her rights, it would not be the same now that she was united and strong.

The King read the speech in a firm voice, but displayed at several passages much emotion, and was often interrupted with vociferous cheering, especially when he spoke of the no-longer-divided Germany—a remark that was understood to allude to the co-operation of Bavaria. The other passages most cheered were the one referring to the peace-loving German people, and the misguidance of the French nation. At the close of the speech Baron von Friesen, the Saxon Minister, called for cheers for King William, which were repeated over and over again.

Count Bismark informed the House that the French Chargé d'Affaires had delivered a declaration of war against Prussia. Hereupon all present arose, and greeted the announcement with loud cheering, the persons in the gallery shouting "Hurrah!" Count Bismark added: "After what we have heard from the King in the Speech from the Throne, I have nothing more to say."

PACIFIC EFFORTS OF THE NEUTRAL POWERS.

The City article of the *Times* says:—"It was generally known to-day that nothing could exceed the energy and the unanimity with which the great neutral Powers are exerting themselves to bring about a truce, so as to give both to France and Prussia an opportunity of recognising the responsibility of the position, and the possibility of all the impending devastation being arrested, with honour to each side, by the decision of a Congress. In the present state of feeling, however, no hope of success seemed to be entertained."

THE PROCLAMATION OF NEUTRALITY.

The Royal Proclamation of Neutrality was issued yesterday at the Court at Osborne; its contents will be known to-day in the farthest part of the kingdom, and by to-morrow a summary of it will have reached the most distant ports in the Queen's dominions beyond the seas. The Proclamation differs in no appreciable degree from similar declarations issued on former occasions. It announces the attitude of strict impartiality the Queen has determined on maintaining in the war now existing, and it enjoins her subjects to follow her example. Attention is called to the terms of the Foreign Enlistment Act, as expressing the obligations of neutrals under the law of nations, and a general warning is given that whoever may violate any of them will do so at his peril, and the protection of the Crown will not extend to any one who may incur capture or any other penalty in consequence. But, in addition to the Proclamation, a circular has been addressed by the Foreign Office to all the chief public departments, giving special directions as to the treatment of the vessels of either belligerent which may resort to British waters.

DEMONSTRATION IN FAVOUR OF FRANCE AT DUBLIN.

The *Times* Dublin correspondent sends the following telegram dated Tuesday night:—"There was a great demonstration in Dublin this evening in favour of the French nation. Large crowds, estimated at between 15,000 and 20,000 persons, assembled opposite the French Consul's residence, with a tricolour flag draped with orange and green. A large number of bands played Irish National airs. The assembly cheered for France and shouted, 'Vive la République!' The bands also played 'Partant pour la Syrie!' The police did not get intelligence of the proposed demonstration until about two hours before it was held; but active measures were taken to preserve peace, and upwards of 100 men, under command of two superintendents, were present while the demonstration was proceeding, and as the crowd was cheering for 'France, the pioneer of liberty,' the police charged and succeeded in capturing the tricolour flag, which was, however, retaken by some of the mob. Some of the drums were broken by the police, but no arrests were made. The French Consul did not make his appearance. The crowd was addressed by a person named Smith. The bands subsequently paraded the streets, followed by immense crowds cheering. It is understood the Political Prisoners' Amnesty Association took an active part in organising the demonstration, as the mob cheered frequently and loudly for O'Donovan Rossa and other Fenian convicts."

Our (*Daily News*) Paris correspondent says it is reported that the Prefect of Police has spent 16,000*l.* within the last few days in organising the "patriotic demonstrations" which have taken place in

the French capital. Since the publication of the order requesting the public to abstain from these demonstrations no more are reported. Counter manifestations in favour of peace have occurred. In one of these on Saturday last 5,000 people are said to have taken part.

Prince Napoleon arrived off Aberdeen yesterday evening, and having received newspapers and landed the persons engaged at Peterhead for the expedition to the North, he sailed shortly afterwards in his yacht for France. He has returned in consequence of having received telegrams while in Norway.

The Frankfurt papers assert that the French army will carry with them a proclamation calling upon the Hanoverians to rise, to be used when they penetrate into Germany.

The Chamber of the Grand Duchy of Luxemburg has passed a resolution expressing the gratification of the people that the neutrality of the State is to be observed by both France and Prussia.

In yesterday's sitting of the Italian Chamber a question was asked as to the attitude of the Government in the present European crisis. The Minister for Foreign Affairs stated in reply that Italy, like the other Powers, had done its best to maintain peace, and that its policy would be one of observation. A request was then made that the correspondence of the Government with the other Powers should be laid before the House, but Signor Lanza declined to comply with the request just then. At the same sitting the announcement was made that the Government had decided upon calling out two classes of conscripts as a precautionary measure.

YESTERDAY'S PARLIAMENT.

In the House of Lords, on the second reading of the New Zealand (Guarantee of Loan) Bill, Lord Grey expressed himself strongly opposed to the policy of an Imperial guarantee for colonial loans, and protested against the bill. Lord GRANVILLE, while agreeing with Lord Grey as to the expediency of guarantees for colonial loans, thought that a small loan like the present, for a specific purpose, might be accepted as the satisfactory termination of a long and acrimonious dispute between the Home and Colonial Governments. The bill was then read a second time. Their Lordships adjourned shortly before six.

THE EDUCATION BILL.

The House of Commons, at a morning sitting, considered the Education Bill as amended, but in the main the whole five hours were occupied by a repetition of points which have been raised and arguments which have been urged at one or other of the previous stages. The amendments made were mostly verbal and inconsequential, but one or two novelties were imported into the Bill. Mr. DIXON, with the assent of Mr. W. E. FORSTER, carried by 86 to 53, a clause giving the managers power to make alterations in the school regulations. Sir G. JENKINSON again endeavoured to exempt from rating persons who maintain a voluntary school in an efficient state, but he was beaten by 120 to 76; and Mr. M'ARTHUR was equally unsuccessful with a proviso requiring that in every district there shall be one school with a conscience clause. The division against him was 168 in '86. At the suggestion of Mr. HOLMS the election of the first Chairman of the Metropolitan School Board was taken from the Education Department and vested in the School board, with the proviso that he is to be one of their own number. The transfer of the election in ordinary boroughs from the town councils to the burgesses announced by Mr. Forster in committee, and now proposed to be carried out by an amendment in Clause 27, gave rise to some controversy. It was opposed by Mr. Dixon, Mr. Mundella, Mr. Muntz, Lord John Manners, and others, but on a division the change was effected by 278 to 57.

The religious difficulty was raised again to a limited extent by a proviso moved by Lord A. HURVY, that no school shall receive a Parliamentary grant in which the Holy Scriptures are not in daily use. It was warmly advocated by Mr. Newdegate and also by Sir J. Pakington, but on a division it was rejected by 205 to 89.

The last debateable point was the Ballot; but so much time was occupied by the previous discussion, that it was impossible to finish it at the morning sitting. First of all, Lord J. MANNERS moved to strike out the words in the second schedule requiring the poll to be taken by ballot, but on a division they were retained, by 197 to 106. Mr. FORSTER then, at a quarter before seven, moved to add words directing the ballot to be taken in accordance with the principles of the Metropolitan Management Act, 1855. Sir C. DILKE and Mr. HARCOURT refused to permit the adoption of these words without a debate and a division, the latter characterising the change as a sham ballot, with which the Liberal party ought not to be content. After a short altercation the debate was adjourned.

At the commencement of the sitting Lord OTHO FITZGERALD brought down the answer to the address recently agreed to against building on the space reclaimed from the Thames Embankment. It was unusually long and argumentative in its tone, but in effect it promised that nothing should be done unknown to Parliament.

At the evening sitting, the Speaker being unwell, Mr. Dodson took the Chair as Deputy Chairman. The case of Mr. Leonard Edmunds and the works in progress at the Serpentine occupied nearly the whole sitting. The ATTORNEY-GENERAL brought in a bill to strengthen the Neutrality Laws. The

other business was disposed of, and the House adjourned at ten minutes to three o'clock.

The Prince of Wales will leave for Denmark at the end of the week, and having joined the Princess, will return with Her Royal Highness to this country.

Mr. Gladstone's absence from the House of Commons was explained yesterday evening, in a manner to suggest the very uneasiness which the explanation was, no doubt, intended to allay. The Prime Minister is not ill, still less has he suffered what can be called "a relapse," however slight. He has simply been conscious that those were right who advised a little rest after recent labours, if he wished actually to avoid any return of indisposition, which has been induced by overwork. And so successful has been the resort to repose, that he will probably be in his place again to-day, or at the latest to-morrow, in the full enjoyment of that excellent health which all have noticed recently.—*Daily Telegraph*.

The fine American steam-packet *Allemania*, one of the North German Lloyd's line, has been in imminent danger of capture, on her voyage from New York to Hamburg, by two French frigates, now cruising in the Channel; and she escaped only by availing herself of the friendly shelter of Portland Breakwater. Subsequently, under cover of a thick fog, she started for Southampton, keeping close inshore, and thus ran the risk of stranding in order to avoid a capture.

The sentence of death lately passed upon William Redhead for the murder of his stepmother is to be commuted into one of penal servitude for life.

Waters and Ellis, the baby-farmers, were again brought up yesterday at the Lambeth Police-court. Another of the unfortunate infants has died since the previous examination, and out of seven found at the farm when the prisoners were arrested, two only survive. Another remand was granted, and at the next sitting the two women will be committed for trial.

THE WESLEYAN CONFERENCE AT BURSLEM.—The Education Committee of Review met yesterday morning, under the presidency of the Rev. Dr. Jobson. The High Sheriff of the county was present. The secretary read the minutes of the committee meetings, and a digest of report. Government reports from three hundred and two departments show that the average grant per child in average attendance obtained in such departments is 10*s.* 8*d.* The percentage of passes in Wesleyan schools is nearly three per cent. above the general average of schools inspected throughout the kingdom. The amount of Government grants to Wesleyan schools in the last year was 36,194*l.*, an increase of 358*l.* on the previous year. The first resolution, recommending the appointment of Connexion inspectors for Wesleyan day-schools, was moved by Mr. Lidgett, of Blackheath, and seconded by the Rev. E. E. Jenkins, of London, and unanimously adopted. The Rev. Dr. Scott moved, and Mr. John Napier, of Manchester, seconded, a resolution recommending the formation of a Sunday School Union. It was adopted. The Rev. John Bedford moved that central meetings be held in September to endeavour to establish Wesleyan day-schools in every part of the kingdom. The Rev. William Arthur moved an amendment to the effect that while the whole question of education was unsettled the Connexion ought not to commit itself to any immediate action. A long discussion took place, after which the Rev. C. Prest suggested that as the feeling of the meeting was divided, the resolution and amendment should be withdrawn, and this course was agreed to. The meeting lasted six hours.

SAD TRAGEDY AT NORWICH.—On Friday last the city of Norwich was thrown into great excitement by the news that Sir R. J. H. Harvey, the head of the Crown Bank, had endeavoured to commit suicide by shooting himself. The bank at once closed its doors. Sir Robert died yesterday. He is said to owe on the present account upwards of 80,000*l.* to the members of the house who have transacted his business. The fall in Spanish is attributed to the closing of his several large operations. He held a considerable amount of telegraph shares, and these have likewise been forced upon the market. It is asserted, but it is scarcely likely, that he has sacrificed upwards of 600,000*l.* in his dealings during the last three years in foreign stocks, railway and general securities. The losses of Sir Robert must have been enormous, because it is well known that his private fortune a few years since was 25,000*l.* to 30,000*l.* per annum, and it was always asserted that the business of the bank was exceedingly profitable. The goodwill of the business and premises were offered to the Union Bank of London. The business has been taken over by Messrs. Gurney.

MARK-LANE.—THIS DAY.

Although the excitement in the grain-trade has been less intense to-day, there has still been a considerable amount of animation apparent, and the late advance has been fully maintained, the tendency being towards further improvement. Very few samples of English wheat have been on sale, and the arrivals from abroad have been limited. For all qualities the trade has been very firm, at fully the late advance. Moderate supplies of barley have been on offer. The demand has been steady, at full quotations. Malt has been quiet, at late rates. Oats have been in request, at extreme currencies. Beans and peas have commanded fully late quotations. Flour has been firm in value and inquiry.

| ARRIVALS THIS WEEK. | | | | | |
|---------------------|--------|---------|-------|--------|--------|
| | Wheat. | Barley. | Malt. | Oats. | Flour. |
| English & Scotch | 150 | — | — | — | — |
| Irish | — | — | — | — | — |
| Foreign | 24,920 | 5,540 | 850 | 21,187 | 940 sk |

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TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"H. OXLEY."—We have not space for his communi-
cation.

The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 20, 1870.

SUMMARY.

WAR against Prussia was announced by
France on Friday; formally declared on Mon-
day. Against Prussia, we say, for Napoleon is
scrupulous not to include the rest of North Ger-
many. He only wants to "crumple up" King
William and his immediate subjects. But we
must go back—for the events of the past week
will occupy a full page in European history. Last
Wednesday evening the telegraph flashed a
single but most welcome word to every continen-
tal capital, and that was "Peace." M.
Ollivier had declared, though not officially,
"Prince Leopold has renounced his candidature
—we are satisfied"; and the Paris Bourse went
up. It was but a momentary gleam of hope,
extinguished by vague rumours of the down-
fall of the Keeper of the Seals, and of explicit re-
ports of renewed negotiations. The Imperial
Government disdained any Hohenzollern de-
clarations, and wanted an explicit renunciation
from King William, and a binding guarantee
for the future. Napoleon III. was longing for
a decent pretext for a war already decided on.
It was found at Ems, where the Prussian King
was staying. That Sovereign, provoked and
bullied by the French Ambassador, at length
stood at bay and denied him audience. A formal
and personal apology was demanded and refused.
It was enough. France was "insulted"; and
on Friday the Duc de Gramont and M. Ollivier,
now the mere echo of the Foreign Minister,
went down to the Legislature and declared that
a *casus belli* had arisen. The obsequious Senate
was in raptures. In the Corps Législatif some
sense of decency remained. M. Thiers cou-
rageously protested against the scandalous pre-
cipitation of the Government, and was supported
by MM. Favre, Gambetta, Buffet, and other
deputies. Needful documents and explanations
were denied. "Reasons of State" forbade the
production of the alleged Prussian note, which

in fact never existed. The objectors were
clamoured down, and before midnight on Friday
millions were voted for the French armies,
already prepared, which are to be hurled on the
Rhine.

There must be no mistake—no turning back.
The great Neutral Powers set to work, but the
skilfully planned incidents at Ems deprived them
of all chance of effecting a pacific arrangement.
They had no standing ground. It remained to
excite the warlike ardour of France. The work
was already half accomplished. The Prefect of
Police had already sent his hired blouses to the
Boulevards to raise the welcome cry of "Down
with Prussia." It fell like a spark upon a heap
of combustibles. The long-pent-up national
jealousy and hatred found vent in evening de-
monstrations, smiled on and not repressed by
the police, till Paris was in a state of delirious
excitement, singing the forbidden Marseillaise
and fraternising with the departing troops. The
intoxication reached such a height that M.
Thiers was obliged to hide himself, and the
Prussian Ambassador was threatened with
violence.

The terrible news found Germany amazed
and unprepared, but not panic-stricken. It was
felt that the time was come, and that the insult-
ing challenge must be promptly accepted. The
South eagerly responded to the appeal of the
North. Berlin turned out, 100,000 strong, and
singing the national anthem, to meet her return-
ing Sovereign, and passionate addresses of
devotion to the Fatherland poured in from
every town and seaport. The entire army of
North Germany was ordered to be placed on a
war footing, and whatever hesitation was felt
by the sovereigns of the Southern States was
overborne by the national enthusiasm. Saxony,
Baden, Wurtemberg, and Hesse-Darmstadt
have followed the lead of Bavaria, have made
common cause with their brethren north of the
Main in resolution to resist the aggressor, and
stand ready to receive the first shock of the
war.

A week ago peace seemed secured, and a
bountiful harvest through Europe was waiting
to be garnered. Now the continent resounds
with the din of arras. Every nation, down to
Turkey, is arming to protect its neutral rights;
every capital eagerly listening for the boom of
the first cannon on the Rhine. They will not
wait long. Half a million soldiers at least are
hurrying from west or east towards that re-
nowned stream for the deadly struggle. The
French cartel was read to the North German
Parliament yesterday amid loud and defiant
cheers, though it must be as well known at
Berlin as in London that 350,000 French troops
are gathered or gathering on the frontier to
cross into Rhenish Prussia and Baden as soon
as the Imperial manifesto has been issued, and
"the man of destiny" has left Paris.

Parliament has been busy during the week.
There have been declarations of great interest,
though necessarily indefinite as yet, in both
Houses, relative to the topic which absorbs every
one's thoughts. A week hence debates on the
Franco-Prussian quarrel will be more to the
purpose when based on official information, and
less exciting after the first outburst of public in-
dignation at the recklessness of France has abated.
The Lords have accepted the principal clauses
re-inserted by the Commons in the Irish Land
Bill, and the difference is now so inconsiderable
as to be capable of being settled by a quiet
conference. The Education Bill is not yet out
of Committee, owing to the fierce opposition of
the Conservatives to the introduction of the
ballot principle in the election of school boards,
which led to a prolonged and exciting sitting of
the Commons till five o'clock on Friday morning.
The question was again discussed yesterday
without immediate result, but the Government
have consented to a compromise which retains
the form without the reality of the ballot, and
limits its operation for a brief period. There is
nothing now worth fighting about. The Bill
will probably be read a third time and passed
before the close of the week.

THE DUEL BETWEEN FRANCE AND PRUSSIA.

THERE is war at last. The pretext upon
which France sought to raise a quarrel with
Prussia was removed out of the way in the
middle of last week. The father of Prince
Leopold, who, it appears, has been travelling,
withdrew the name of the Prince from the
candidature for the Spanish Crown with which
General Prim had associated it, expressly in
order that no family interest of the Hohen-
zollerns should become the occasion of inter-
national hostilities in Europe. Every one,
including even M. Ollivier, the Prime Minister
of France, concluded, naturally enough, that
the cause of offence being gone, the probability

of war had disappeared with it. It was then
little understood that a certain number of con-
spirators had in secret pledged themselves one
to another that, as soon as the French army
had been placed upon a footing of complete
preparation, Prussia should be attacked, with
or without cause. Yet, this was the fact stated
by M. Rouher in his address to the Emperor
of the French a few days back. France has
been waiting four years, he intimated, whilst
labouring night and day to render her arma-
ments perfect. Having completed that pre-
liminary work, she cannot now forego the
chance of using her strength. The war which
all Europe witnesses with indignant horror, let
it be borne in mind, is the single work of the
Emperor of the French, and of his military
entourage, undertaken to the surprise of his
Parliamentary Ministers; in face of a protest
against its infamy by M. Thiers, and several of
the leaders of the Republican party in France;
against the opinion of a large majority of the
French people; and in defiance of the counsels
and remonstrances of all the European allies of
France. Never was an act involving issues so
incalculable, and imposing responsibilities so
awful, done with a more predetermined will, or
concealed behind a cloud of more factitious pre-
textures.

The war which has been declared between
France and Prussia has been deliberately
brought about by the Emperor Napoleon for
dynastic purposes. It is well known that the
prospects of the Prince Imperial, when his father
shall be called by death to quit his blood-stained
throne, are hazy and uncertain. The atmo-
sphere through which they are seen distorts the
forms, and discolours the hues, which they
present. Imperialism, in fact, has not taken
root in the French soil. No craft, no audacity,
no wisdom even, or moral courage, has availed
to put life into the *effete* system. It is, and
from the beginning has been, an artificial thing,
raised by the hand of power, acquiesced in for
a time by national fear, but never sanctioned by
popular confidence or affection. It is, however,
with a view to remove all foreseen obstacles to
the perpetuation of the Empire under the rule
of his own family, that the Emperor has flung
down the gauntlet which the King of Prussia
has been compelled to pick up. The lives of
hundreds of thousands of men, the family ties
of at least half a million, the interests, com-
mercial, social, intellectual, moral, and religious,
of many nations, are to be put in peril, whilst
the Emperor Napoleon, with the vast army
which ever since the Battle of Sadowa he has
been busy in expanding, organising, and equip-
ping, clears a space for the throne of his only
son. This is the real meaning of the war with
Prussia. This was resolved upon as soon as the
Emperor found that Bismarck had outwitted
him, and that Prussia had taken a position
threatening to the supremacy of French in-
fluence on the continent.

As there is no doubt as to what are the ends
aimed at by this needless war, so there is, for-
tunately, no possibility of disguising the
wretched untruthfulness, unskilfulness, and
headstrong waywardness, by which it has been
brought about. It is impossible for us, within
the narrow compass of an article like this, to
expose the tissue of falsehoods and the system
of impostures by which those who have the
management of details in the carrying out of the
Imperial policy in France, have sought to throw
dust into the eyes of neighbouring nations. It
would be impracticable at present, even if we
had sufficient space at our command, to collect
and bring together the evidence which exists,
that the officials in Paris are daily engaged in
weaving a veil for the concealment of France's
shame. When the whole truth is laid bare;
when the base purposes of the men who have
made this war, stand out, as they will do here-
after, in strong relief; and when the sinful as
well as mean ingenuity which has been em-
ployed to clothe the ghastly crime with decent
appearances is distinctly visible; the revulsion
of feeling which will be excited in the popular
mind, not in France only, but in other great
military monarchies, will doubtless aggravate
the condemnation with which civilised humanity
will henceforth associate the reputation of the
Bonaparte family.

In the hot indignation with which our
countrymen, of all ranks and classes, are con-
strained to denounce the crime of the French
Emperor, they must not lose sight of the fact
that he is merely meting out to Prussia
the same measure which, four years ago, Prussia
meted out to Austria, and, six years ago, to
Denmark. In many of the circumstances of the
present case, the victor of Sadowa is but reap-
ing the harvest of ills which he was then so
busily engaged in scattering broadcast over the
land. Prussian ambition, indulged in without
regard to the blood and misery which it
occasioned, has become—what every one who

believes in the retributive justice of Heaven foresaw that it must become—the origin of a scourge the endurance of which, with whatever fortitude and heroism, must be embittered by the reflection that it is well deserved. We cannot in our hearts desire that the political work that was then accomplished by Prussia should be all undone. We have no wish that France should do to her what she, in the recklessness of her pride, but lately did to others. But we must confess that we cannot wish Prussia unqualified success. As the latest disturber of European peace for national aggrandisement, we trust she may be led to review the recent passages of her history, and to repent of them. We admit that Germany, organised upon a basis of unity, might become a powerful guarantee for the peace of Europe when the rivalry between France and herself has been set aside. But we own that the Prusso-Austrian war destroyed the sympathy with which we had previously regarded what we looked upon as the natural mission of the Teutonic race. Prussia has done much to provoke the chastisement which, whether she stands or falls, is about to overtake her.

Oh that they who make wars were the only instruments capable of taking part in them, or suffering from the evils they inflict! The worst feature of the case is that the punishment, or seeming punishment, of national wrongdoing falls, for the most part, upon those who have been innocent of the offence. We will not discuss the mystery here. We rejoice in an unshaken belief that Almighty wisdom and goodness is evolving good out of evil. We do not despair, moreover, of seeing an end of wars and rumours of wars. It may be that the monster will be self-devouring, and that the art of destroying life will prove to have been brought to such perfection that humanity will not dare to face its own inventions. It would not be the first time by many that "vaulting ambition has o'erleaped itself," or the least remarkable illustration of

—The engineer
Hoist by his own petard.

INFALLIBILITY VOTED.

ON Wednesday last in the so-called Ecumenical Council at Rome, the question whether the Pope is infallible was put to the vote, as though it had been the sitting of a debating society, and carried by 450 against 88. "The Ayes had it" by a large majority. Though in our view the acceptance of the dogma accords, to a very great extent, with the practical teachings of the Romish clergy, and is the logical conclusion of their system, one is a little taken aback at this secular method of defining a great truth. If the majority were divinely inspired on the occasion, what was the condition of the minority? Were they, as the Jesuit advisers of Pius IX. have so often said, guilty of heresy, and did they take sides with the enemies of the Church, because they gave a negative vote? One of the main reasons why the decrees of Ecumenical Councils have been accepted has always been their apparent unanimity. But now it has come to be a question of majorities, and although Pius IX. proclaims that he is the Council, the decision is felt to be so incongruous that an endeavour is to be made "to reclaim dissentient votes." This device for securing seeming agreement may possibly avail. It may be that the dissentient cardinals and archbishops will in the end succumb, and that the assent of the absent 150 Fathers may, in some shape, be secured. Something of the kind, indeed, must be done if the new dogma is to be accepted generally by the votaries of the Romish Church, else the moral influence, and possibly the legal force, of the decision is destroyed.

It is not surprising that the Vatican should protest "against the calumnies of the newspapers and pamphlets reflecting upon the Council." The wonder is that those who convened the assembly should overlook the result that must inevitably flow from free and unrestrained discussion outside the Council Chamber. Though the Fathers have sat with closed doors, their plans and deliberations have been open to the severe criticism of a ruthless world. Their dogmas have been challenged, their arguments assailed, and their historical claims falsified. They have provoked that which is most fatal to the pretensions of the Papacy—the spirit of free inquiry within the Church itself. Thus encouraged, cardinals, archbishops and bishops, whose individual authority as Fathers in the Church was threatened with extinction by the usurpations of their Head, formed a determined opposition and argued and quarrelled in the face of all men. The mischief was done, and it was irreparable. The mysterious claims of the Roman Catholic Church were examined by the intelli-

gence of the age. All the superstitious reverence which has been the growth of tradition, prejudice, and prescription was loosened by this free discussion; and at last the infallibility of the Pope is affirmed when the Catholic world is least disposed to acquiesce, and even its own bishops repudiate it.

But we somewhat err. It now appears that the vote of last Wednesday was not final. The Pope knew the advantage he had already secured, and has pressed it to the utmost. The elder and more feeble members of the Council, who had not already left Rome, began to sicken under the tropical and pestiferous climate; the strongest to ail. To all appeals for an adjournment, Pius IX. turned a deaf ear. The Fathers had an imperative duty to perform. One of his predecessors at the Council of Florence starved the Greek prelates into submission, and his recipe should be equally effectual. "Let them crack or burn," is said to have been the amiable response of the vindictive Pontiff to the plaint of the overwrought Bishops. They must be broiled into obedience. The Pope's thorough policy has answered. The Opposition has disappeared. At the public sitting on Monday the eighty-eight protestors were reduced to two, and after infallibility had been formally voted by 533 Fathers Pius IX. proclaimed the new dogma. The Pope and his fanatical adherents have "burnt their ship."

An irrevocable blow has been aimed at the Roman Catholic Church, which amid the excitement of European politics, cannot be expected to take instant effect. Whether the protesting cardinals and prelates have succumbed for the sake of the interests of the Papacy, or have only retired to renew the conflict elsewhere, is not of much consequence. The events which have occurred at Rome, and which culminated on Monday last, will bear fruit in controversy, protests, and schisms. The prelates have been outraged, and their flocks insulted by the Vatican. The Catholic laity have no longer a Church to reverence, but are required to pay spiritual homage to a frail old man—fanatical, vindictive, unscrupulous—the Grand Llama of the Papacy. The Vatican has, in the face of day, more than ever divorced itself from the intelligence of the age, taken up an attitude of resolute antagonism to the civil Governments of the world, trampled on the episcopacy, and deprived its priesthood of moral influence. The Roman Catholic faith is too congenial to corrupt human nature to be easily displaced. But the Pope and his Jesuit advisers have done their best to undermine it.

THE NEUTRAL POWERS AND THE WAR.

"FRANCE seeks no alliance, but prefers single-handed conflict." Such is the statement telegraphed on Sunday from Paris, which may be explained by the Emperor's knowledge that he can at present command no allies; or that he must conciliate the Neutral Powers, alienated if not indignant; or by his assurance that if left alone, France can beat united Germany and dictate terms of peace at Berlin. It is an idle phrase uttered before entering upon a gigantic war, which every one knows to be devoid of real meaning—an intention, if it be an intention, which he who formed it cannot undertake to carry out, and which the events of a month—a week—may utterly frustrate. As well might the man who is about to break down the banks of a river, offer a guarantee that he will regulate the rushing torrent to which he is giving free course. Napoleon III. has scorned the mediation of the chief neutral Powers as he refused a pacific settlement of the Hohenzollern dispute, and we may rest assured that he will, if needs be, scruple at no combination with a view to secure the object for which he has launched the Imperial armies on the Rhine frontier, and that it will be out of his power to alone limit the dimensions of the war upon which he has deliberately and criminally entered amid the protests of Europe.

So sagacious a man as the Emperor is reputed to be must have been prepared for this outburst of European indignation, prepared to throw overboard all his old allies, and prepared also to see Germany, north and south, unite as one man against his daring aggressions. With the desperation of the bankrupt gamester he is ready to stake all on one throw, and means to win or perish in the attempt. He may persist in his mad enterprise, but that he will re-establish the supremacy of France, and scatter to pieces the German Confederation, is not the necessary corollary of any victories he may win upon the field of battle. As Mr. Disraeli eloquently said on Friday night, the Sovereign who trusts to melodramatic catastrophes "will find at the moment of action that he has to

encounter, wherever he may be placed, a greater and more powerful force than any military array, and that is the outraged opinion of an enlightened world." In the plenitude of his pride and the confidence in his resources, the Emperor goes forth to humble Prussia. But what if that "outraged opinion" pursues him as a spectre throughout his great campaign, and the stand-by step forward in the moment of victory to rob him of its fruits?

France may be strong as a military Power, but she is isolated. She has no allies to fall back upon in the event of disaster. Germany, probably, would stand the shock of many reverses; Napoleon, if unsuccessful, could only fall back upon revolution at home. The Emperor of Austria and Count Beust might be ready on an emergency, but no reliance is to be placed on their good wishes. Six million of Austrian Germany, and the possibility of Russian intervention, will suffice to keep Austria out of the deadly fray. Denmark is too insignificant to reckon as a serviceable, however willing an ally. Italy, Spain, and all the smaller Powers of Europe, have nothing to expect from taking the side of France, but a good deal to gain by the curb being put upon her ambitious designs. It is amazing to see our Stock Exchange agitated by idle rumours, first of Russia's alliance with Prussia, and next day of Austria's combination with France. Both Powers best serve their own interests by resolute non-intervention, and by reserving themselves for united action with the rest of Europe with a view to put an end to the fearful struggle. There is no question of a dismemberment of France. But neither Austria nor Russia could, under any probable circumstances, consent that the Gallic empire should possess the Rhine provinces, nor that North Germany should be again broken up. The autonomy of Hungary forbids Austria to long for the South German States, and the dismemberment of Prussia would be a serious disaster to her northern neighbour.

Earl Granville spoke with statesmanlike sagacity when he said that the British Government ought to steer clear of all bias and entanglements, so as to be able to interpose at the right moment in the interests of peace. Our influence is not unfelt, and Russia has, most zealously and honourably, seconded the efforts of our Government, even down to the eleventh hour, to stop the slaughter-house work on the Rhine frontier. The neutrality of Holland and Belgium are, for a time at least, safe—both the belligerents being under binding pledges to respect it. Consequently the tide of battle is towards the boundary line where French and Prussian territory touch, and the South German States lie exposed. One great peril of the war is therefore evaded. By resolutely holding aloof, it is in the power of the great Neutral States to offer their good offices after the first serious collision, and to offer it with something like moral coercion, which will be all the more justifiable, seeing that France has, by refusing to listen to them, violated the unwritten obligations of the Paris Conference, and outraged the opinion of Europe.

THE WORKING MEN'S INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION.

IN strange and significant contrast to the ominous scenes which the bitter jealousies and hatreds of two rival military powers have rendered so frequent on the now hotly excited continent, is the peaceful industrial display at the Islington Agricultural Hall. Although less extensive and varied than we had been led to expect, it contains numerous features of interest, and the contributions furnished by the Italian and other continental workmen will probably be closely scrutinised by the English artisan visitors. In general appearance, there is little difference between the new exhibition and its predecessors; it is only when we come to examine it in detail that we discover its real character. It is essentially more practical in its nature than any of the kind hitherto held in this country, and, despite its numerous deficiencies, marks an important advance in the Industrial Exhibition system. Utility and workmanship occupy a larger place in the arrangements, and there are fewer of what may be termed the mere curiosities of industry, such as tables made with the aid of a single knife, or bed-quilts formed of hundreds of small pieces of cloth or calico laboriously and patiently sewn together. Such of these industrial freaks as do appear are to be found principally in the English portion of the exhibition. The continental exhibitors, with instinctive good sense, have confined themselves principally to the display of specimens of excellence and ingenuity in their respective trades. Especially is this so with the Italians, whose contributions to the display are of the most artistic and finished

character possible. Among these is a beautiful *escriboire*, the workmanship of which is literally perfect. It is of ebony and ivory, inlaid with lapis-lazuli and coloured mosaics in marble. The price is fixed at one thousand guineas, a sum which shows the exhibitor to belong to a higher social grade than that of the working-man; yet it is well that such articles should find a place in these displays, inasmuch as they help to create a standard of excellence much needed among our artisans. The same may be said of other portions of the Italian contributions, which are the property of the Italian manufacturers and tradesmen rather than of Italian artisans. For instance, the articles exhibited by M. Castellani, the famous Roman jeweller, would never have found their way to Islington, had the exhibition been strictly limited to the productions and property of working-men. It is in this respect that the Islington display somewhat belies its name. The workman occupies therein a less conspicuous part than does the employer. A real workmen's exhibition, that is, one in which the exhibitors are, without exception, members of the labouring classes, seems an impossibility, a dream yet to be realised.

But if the employers and manufacturers are largely represented, the workmen have a greater amount of recognition than formerly. In nearly every case the name of the workman or workmen employed is given, as well as that of the mere exhibitors. This is a feature which ought to characterise all industrial displays; for its adoption would tend to remove much of the ill-feeling which at present subsists between Capital and Labour. The workman would then have no grounds for complaining that the employer obtained all the honour as well as all the profit. Apart from this, the exhibition contains numerous points of peculiar interest. For instance, there is the Indian Court, a collection for which the public are largely indebted to Dr. Forbes Watson, of the India Museum. The articles here exhibited are remarkable, not merely for excellence in oriental decoration and workmanship, but for their almost incredible cheapness. The Bombay and Scinde specimens of wood and ivory work, Cashmere and Delhi shawls, and Decca muslins, could not be produced in the country at anything like the price for which they are sold in India, for the Indian workman or workmen receive little more than as many pennies as those of Europe would obtain shillings, a fact which may yet have some influence in the practical illustration of politico-economical doctrines. The French Court contains much that is worth seeing, especially the little terra cotta statuettes of which the Parisians appear so fond; and forms, in its richness of artistic feeling, a curious contrast to the display furnished by Holland, which is principally of a rigidly utilitarian character, enough so to have gladdened the heart of a Gradgrind, supposing him to have possessed one. Copper kettles, iron looks, extinguishers shaped as church steeples, furniture, and the like, are unsparingly thrust upon our notice. Everything is solid and substantial, but the artistic element is miserably deficient. Not so in the German Court. There our Teuton brethren fairly hold their own against the rivalry of France and Italy.

Glancing over the English industrial contributions proper, we notice a marked improvement on the displays of former years. In more than one instance they are to be found actually excelling their competitors, while in many the rivalry is so close as to leave doubts as to whom the palm should be awarded. There can be no doubt that the spread of art education among the people is beginning to have its effect. There are some specimens of art-workmanship which may be regarded as being among the very best of their kind. Among these is a beautiful inlaid Amboyna-wood lloo-table, also an Amboyna clock-case, with purple-wood mouldings and enrichments of ivory, both of which are very tastefully designed. It is impossible to specify in detail the numerous specimens of art-workmanship which deserve mention. That they should be so plentiful is a matter for sincere congratulation. Unfortunately there are also many—we fear too many—evidences of want of taste, of utter absence of a knowledge of even elementary art principles. Thus, a series of paintings on wooden panels, contributed by a rag-sorter, are ludicrously absurd in their palpable deficiency in the art of drawing, colour, and perspective. A child of ten years old might produce something better. Again, not a few of the exhibitors, instead of attempting to furnish evidences of proficiency in their own trades or occupations, seek to shine in others. Thus we have an engineer turning sculptor, a coffee-refiner becoming mechanician, and a chemist showing a contrivance for frightening birds. A power of adapting himself readily to new

trades is the great want of the English artisan, therefore these apparently crotchety tendencies must not be judged too harshly. It is the right spirit, but wrongly developed. If our working men would render their labour more easily adaptable to new trades in which labour is in demand, we should hear less of want of employment than we do at certain times. For instance, in certain chemical manufactories, the workmen have to be procured from abroad because there are no English to be obtained; yet in the very same neighbourhood some scores of intelligent workmen are vainly seeking employment.

There is a "fine arts" department of the exhibition, but we can say very little in its favour. The fine arts seem to live under a cloud in our industrial exhibitions, which, somehow or other, contrive to procure the examples least wanted. The art gallery of an industrial exhibition is often little better than a collection of "pictorial horrors," and the present, despite the presence of a number of tolerably good paintings, is no exception to the rule. There are, however, numerous excellent specimens of decorative painting, showing that the English decorative artist is rapidly approaching his continental rivals, both in taste and originality of design. In articles of mere ornament, also, is this progress perceptible. There is considerably less than formerly to offend the cultivated eye, although much room yet remains for improvement. In machinery we have pretty much our own way; but there are evidences in various parts of the exhibition that the mechanical skill and excellence of more than one continental nation closely approach our own, and that, unless interrupted by the progress of the war which in a few days will have commenced ravaging Europe, this competition will become yet more keen. But who can read the future? A few days have sufficed to change the whole political aspect of Europe, and render its future history a riddle. To think that this exhibition, so earnestly and laboriously completed, may possibly be the last of its kind for many years to come! It sounds almost incredible. The arts of War again threaten to domineer over the arts of Peace, and the chariot-wheels of Industrial Progress forced back a couple of generations. Little did the continental workmen who have so hopefully contributed to this exposition dream that its inauguration would be preceded by the trumpet-blast of horrid War! Yet so it was. Before the exhibition closes, many of those whose labour has assisted in fashioning the articles displayed may be lying cold and lifeless on the crimsoned battle-field. It is terrible. And for what is all this fighting? Literally an empty shadow. No wonder the Islington Industrial Exhibition has already become invested with a mournful interest. Let us hope that it may not be long enduring.

The "Spiritualist" delusionists are, it appears, making free with the name of Mr. Dickens, and are beginning to publish the revelations which he makes through mediums!

SOMETHING LIKE A TITLE.—The *Gazette of India* publishes a despatch addressed by the Viceroy to "His Great, Glorious, and most Excellent Majesty who reigns over the kingdoms of Thuna, Paranta, Tampadipa, and all the great Umbrella-wearing Chiefs of the Eastern Country, the King of the Rising Sun, Lord of the Celestial Elephant, Master of Many White Elephants, the Great Chief of Righteousness." The potentate indicated is the King of Burmah.

THE ANCIENT BRITONS.—Professor Rolleston has published, through the medium of the Society of Antiquaries, a very interesting account of the researches and excavations which have been recently made at Frilford, a little hamlet in Berkshire, on the River Ock. They have brought to light a fact which had previously been entirely unknown, namely, that in pre-Roman times Frilford was a place of some importance, and that it continued to be a populous settlement until after the Saxon conquest of Britain. Dr. Rolleston, who is as much an anatomist as an antiquary, draws these inferences from a careful examination of a large number of skeletons found upon the spot. They exhibit marked differences not only in height but also in the size and shape of their skulls, the Romano-Briton being in every respect superior both to the primitive Celt and to the Saxon invader. The Romano-British skeletons are chiefly those of old or very young males, with a considerable proportion of females of all ages, and Dr. Rolleston accounts for the absence of middle-aged men by the suggestion that they were serving in distant countries under Magnus Maximus and other commanders. The average height of a Romano-British male was 5 ft. 8 in.—a gain of two inches upon that of the primitive Celt—but the women seldom exceeded 5 ft. The Professor thinks that the low stature of the latter, so disproportionately small as compared with modern nations, is due to their spending their lives inside houses "which, if light, must have been cold; if warm, must have been dark: which had no chimneys, and only in the case of the rich, hypocausts, and even in their case probably no glass."—*Pall Mall Gazette*.

FRANCE AND PRUSSIA.

(Continued from page 686.)

THE WAR AND THE MONEY MARKET.

The news of the declaration of war on Friday produced great excitement on the Stock Exchange. The total decline in Consols on that and previous days was about two per cent. Six dealers were unable to meet their engagements, and securities were all but unsaleable.

On Monday the panic was renewed, which, although ostensibly consequent on the war, was, in reality, attributable almost entirely to the confusion and distrust created by the failure of three brokers who had been acting in the large speculations of Sir Robert Harvey and others. To account for the fall the wildest rumours were circulated, the principal ones being that Russia had declared war against France, and that English troops were about to be despatched to Belgium. These reports were at once discredited by the principal London firms, but at the moment when it was circulated the agitation on the Stock Exchange was beyond control. Consols opened with comparative steadiness at 91½ to 92, but, on a succession of sales, went in the middle of the day to 89½, the lowest price touched since 1866. Ultimately there was a little less agitation, and the final bargains were at 89½ to 90½.

It is stated that the Russian rumour emanated from the Baltic Coffee House, and was put in circulation exactly at the right moment to exert a powerful influence on the corn market. The first effect was to raise the pretensions of holders of wheat to an extravagant degree, and an advance of 8s. to 10s. a quarter was asked from purchasers. Transactions were, in consequence, brought almost to a standstill, but ultimately factors abated their demands, and business was done at a rise of about 6s. to 7s. a quarter; barley and oats were 2s. to 3s. per qr. dearer; beans, peas and maize, 2s.; foreign and country flour, 4s. a barrel and 6s. a sack dearer. The rates of premium against war risk on vessels at sea, or about to sail, also rose, and an enormous business is reported to have been transacted at Lloyd's and with the various marine insurance companies.

Some idea of the depreciation in the value of securities may be formed from the fact that in English consols and foreign stocks the value declined between the 4th and 12th to the extent of 76,295,000l. and in British railways to the amount of 10,000,000l. sterling. About 15,000,000l. may be added for German, Dutch, Austrian, and Belgian stocks, and it must be remembered that all securities have still further declined since the declaration of war.

The *Economist* says:—"One effect of the war and of the excitement of the Stock Exchange consequent on it will be that the dealing in foreign stocks will be rendered more healthy. A great number of new loans have been lately introduced into our money market, and all have been received with a certain amount of public approbation. But all the stock represented by these loans has not yet sunk down to the public; some part—in many cases a very large part—still remains in the hands of speculators in London, and is held by means of money borrowed in various ways. A considerable part of this money will now gradually be called in. After the rapid changes of last week, and the impossibility of maintaining margins, the lenders do not like their security. The next monetary effect of war will be to bring capital to this country for investment. Such has always been the effect of recent troubles on the continent. But if the war should be prolonged, then a wholly different set of causes will begin to operate. Both France and Prussia will become borrowers in the money market, and borrowers upon the largest scale. And this will revolutionise the Stock Exchanges of Europe. Instead of lending to the countries outside the line of full civilisation—to countries, in many cases, of very questionable credit—they will be lending to the central powers of the world, who are good for any amount of money, and who will, at a rate, be able to borrow almost any sum they please. They will be able, therefore, to subtract from the ordinary discount market an enormous sum, and the effect of this will probably be to raise the rate of discount."

THE REV. T. BINNEY ON THE WAR.

The Rev. T. Binney, on Sunday morning, at the King's Weigh-house Chapel, Fish-street-hill, delivered an impressive discourse upon the declaration of war against Prussia by France. In justification of a proceeding which some might think unusual, he said he found his morning's newspaper as instructive as the chapters in the Books of the Kings. The latter gave us the history of God's doings amongst the nations ages ago; the former, if we had the wise and understanding heart, revealed to us the working of the Divine Being in the present. Alluding to the surprise with which the declaration of war had filled the minds of English people when they thought, a few days ago, that the peace of Europe was no longer threatened, he said there were some philosophers who thought that war was a grand educator of the people, and that by it they became stronger and more vigorous in character. It was a terrible price, however, and a very dear education even if it were true, which he doubted. He had seen a record in which a writer went over the history of England for fifty and a hundred years, and it was his object to show how European nations were never at peace, except when they were poor and exhausted. When they had had a little breathing time the blood that was in them came out, and war was the result. Mr. Binney said he should be sorry to think that there should be such an inevitable necessity for war constantly recurring. But whatever might be the tendencies of nations, whatever the ambitions and philosophies of individuals, the

Christian Church had to pray for the things which made for peace, and even now to implore the God of peace to avert the war between two professedly Christian nations. It was sad to reflect upon that even Christian nations did not attempt nationally to realise and embody in the national conduct the true principles of Christianity which they professed. Having given a narrative of the quarrel between France and Prussia, and having denounced the haste in which, without reference to friendly Powers, both countries were about to plunge in a war which would involve the desolation of families, the destruction of human life, and the waste of property, Mr. Binney said that Englishmen might well be proud of their Parliament, and of the noble words which had been uttered both by Mr. Disraeli and Mr. Gladstone. He regarded these utterances as a very significant sign of the times. The result of the war between France and Prussia no one could foretell; perhaps humiliation, and degradation with humiliation, and humiliation well deserved.

THE CHANCES OF FRANCE AND PRUSSIA.
(From the *Pall Mall Gazette*.)

Although many of the data for a detailed comparison of the chances under which the belligerents will enter the field are still wanting, some of the conditions on which the ultimate success of either side must more or less depend may already be pointed out. First of all, it must be borne in mind that the war will be as original in character as any war ever was. The new armaments change the whole tactics of the past, and even to a considerable extent affect strategic principles. Assuming that France and Prussia can at once bring into the field pretty nearly the same number of land forces, let us see on which side the balance of advantage is shown by a review of the general conditions. The Danish war, the Austro-Prussian war, as well as the last Italian campaign, in all of which the new arms were only partially introduced on one side of the contest, give no trustworthy ground for such an estimate, which must therefore remain to a considerable extent a speculative one.

On the whole, the belligerents appear to be equally well armed; but, as far as it is known, the Chassepot has a slight advantage over the needle-gun; the former being lighter, less liable to get out of order, and shooting a little quicker. The respective merits of the French and the Prussian soldiery as marksmen, which may very easily counter-balance or increase the difference in their arms, remain to be decided on the field. The guns of the artillery may be taken as equally good, but the French gunners ought to be better trained, because the men and horses remain permanently in the ranks, while in Prussia only two-thirds of the effectives remain on service in time of peace. The French battery, also, has two guns more than the Prussian; thus it may be that a smaller battery, with a considerable number of raw horses and fresh men, will often have to act against a larger one, in which officers, men, and horses are uniformly up to their business. But as the Austrian and Danish war happened only a few years since, it may be calculated that Prussia will be able to bring at once into the ranks many an artilleryman who has been actually engaged, and thus this disadvantage will be remedied, to a certain extent at least. There remain as probable advantages to France the mitrailleuse and the new revolving cannon. True, the merits of the latter arm are by no means established at present; of the former there are several batteries in the French army and none in the Prussian, we believe. But even this arm is known only by reports of French experiment, and its real importance remains also to be ascertained. With regard to cavalry, the advantage will probably be on the side of Prussia, whenever there is an opportunity of heavy attack in more or less considerable masses, which opportunities, however, may not be very frequent. And should the mitrailleuse batteries prove really effective, and if they are well distributed among the various French corps, the massive action of the Prussian cavalry will be considerably paralysed; for, supposing even that the mitrailleuse has no very deadly effect beyond 1,000 yards, it will still avail to frighten the horses beyond due control. Moreover, for action in small bodies and for reconnaissances, the French cavalry is at least as effective and as well trained as the Prussian.

With regard to the command of the two armies nothing can be said yet, as even the names of the generals who are to play the most prominent parts are not at all or accurately known. To be sure, Prince Charles is a better general than the Emperor Napoleon; but it remains to be shown how far the military abilities of Count Moltke are preferable to those of Canrobert, Macmahon, or Bazaine.

The tactical and strategic aspects of the conflict remain to be considered. If the telegram conveying the promises of the belligerents to preserve the neutrality of the adjacent countries be trustworthy, there will be little choice but for the French to go to Berlin or for the Prussians to go to Paris. Under such circumstances the war would probably be finished very soon; for two or three decisive battles would settle the matter, unless the conflict widens into a European war. If, on the other hand, the neutrality of certain States is disregarded, the war may take a turn which will quite upset calculation. However, all this is very problematical and quite out of our present purpose. Confining ourselves to the purely military aspect of the question, we are inclined to say that the issue of the war will depend as much upon the Emperor Napoleon as its declaration did. Whatever the King of Prussia or Count Bismarck may have done towards provoking the war, they will have comparatively little influence

over its conduct; in other words, the Prussian military authorities, and especially Prince Charles, will have far greater freedom of action than the French marshals. The Emperor Napoleon, taking the chief command of the army, will listen to the advice of his generals only as far as he is inclined to do so; and the more anxious he may be personally to sustain the military reputation of his uncle, the more likely are the French to be ultimately defeated. It must be borne in mind that the Prussian army is much more capable of acting in large bodies than the French is; the entire organisation of the two armies, their whole discipline, lead to this capital difference. It may be fairly said that in the Prussian army the most independent man is the captain of the company. Between him and the commander-in-chief all the intermediate authorities are merely links transmitting orders. Consequently, if the commanding officers of the company are intelligent men, the largest army can act with the greatest possible unity; and one of the best means of disorganising the Prussian army during battle would be to shoot all the captains. In the French army, on the other hand, the fundamental body is the battalion, whose commanding officer is a person of sufficient rank to imagine himself—and to a certain extent really to be—an independent commander. The battalion, amounting in France to something like 750 men, and often acting on its own account, makes the French army in the long run much more fit for acting in detachments of a moderate size than in large corps. Their comparatively less stringent discipline has also acted in that direction. And if the Emperor Napoleon intends to give a *gr-r-vande bataille* under his personal command, he is very likely to be beaten.

Another point on which much will depend is connected with the question of who will take the offensive and who the defensive. The new weapons make offensive action exceedingly disadvantageous. For if the attacked corps is even much weaker in numbers than its adversaries, it can, if it profits by the various cover which the position may afford, so much reduce the attacking forces during their advance that the chances of further fighting will be greatly reduced. If the French take the offensive they will probably attempt to neutralise this disadvantage by using great masses of artillery both before and in conjunction with advancing columns, as they have often done before. But then the Prussian needle-gun will operate on the batteries, in all cases when it can reach them, and thus one of the greatest advantages of France over Prussia, that of a perfectly-trained artillery, may be greatly lessened after any battle of this sort. These disadvantages of offensive action must be still greater for Prussia than for France, for the Chassepot is pretty sure to act more efficiently than the needle-gun, and the French infantry soldier more than any other is likely to prove a better marksman from behind field works, as a bush or a mound, than when he has to shoot and advance at the same time. It has been said that the Prussian military authorities were lately of opinion that in case of a war with France a direct and audacious march to Paris would give the best chance of victory; but we must confess we do not quite comprehend the grounds of such an opinion.

The only advantage that Prussia would seem to have in invading France is that the French people are likely to be, as they have shown themselves to be, very indifferent fighters at home. Led by the prestige of glory they will go impetuously to the end of the world; but when they see foreign soldiers in their own country they give up everything for lost, and lose their heads and sometimes even their courage. With the Germans it is almost the reverse. They fight better at home than abroad; although it is not impossible that when brought to the French frontier every soldier will be as furious to cross it as Blucher was when, about to cross the Rhine, he said that he would cross it alone if the allies confabulated any longer on the subject. These peculiarities of national character ought to be well kept in view by the respective commanders; and it is not improbable that the most fortunate general during this war will be that one who shall prove to be not less versed in the management of military forces than in knowledge of the peculiarities of the national mind.

From a purely military point of view, perhaps, the better plan of a campaign would be for the French to occupy at once the Rhine provinces, and to hold themselves there on the defensive. While for the Prussians, the better plan would certainly be to draw the French as far as possible into Germany, to give them there battle, and, if successful, to push their enemies before them on to Paris.

THE FRENCH "MITRAILLEUSE."
(From the *Globe*.)

To destroy your enemy in the shortest time, in the easiest manner, and at the least possible expense, is the first maxim of war. The stone that whistled from David's sling, the bullet of the "sundnadelgewehr," and the volley of the "machine-gun" had all the same object. Since the days of Roger Bacon the aim of all improvements in firearms has been to carry the greatest possible number of deaths to the greatest possible distance. Grape, canister or case, and shrapnel, all contain bullets, and are all means for multiplying deaths. The field-gun mows down its hundreds by showers of case at close quarters, or at longer distances rains bullets from the bursting shrapnel. The mitrailleuse or machine-gun, on the contrary, sends a large number of small projectiles independently, and with precision, to a considerable distance. We may divide arms on the latter principle into two classes—first, those which discharge their bullets from a single barrel, fed by a many-chambered breech; and, secondly, those in which each cartridge has its corresponding

barrel, the charging and discharging of which is direct, and more or less simple. It is obvious that, for rough usage and continuous firing, it is better that a large number of rounds should be fired from a considerable number of barrels so placed as to support each other and add strength to the whole machine. The French Mitrailleuse, as well as the Belgian Montigny, belongs to the second class, and the following brief description is equally applicable to both arms:—The machine gun consists of a cluster of barrels, either bound together or bored out of the solid, and mounted on the same principle as an ordinary field gun. At a few hundred yards, indeed, it would be difficult to distinguish between these weapons, as far as outward appearance goes. To the barrel is attached a massive breech action capable of being opened and closed by a lever. In the Montigny arm the cartridges are carried in steel plates perforated with holes corresponding in number and position to the holes in the barrel. This steel plate, in fact, forms the "vent piece" of the system. The central fire cartridges being dropped into the holes in the steel plate, stand out at right angles from it, and the plates, thus ready charged, are so carried in limber and axle-tree boxes specially fitted for their reception. When the gun comes into action the breech is drawn back, a steel plate of cartridges is dropped into its corresponding slot, and the breech block thrust forward and secured. The gun is now on full cock, and contains from thirty to forty cartridges, which are fired by a "barrel organ" handle, either one by one as the handle works round click-click, or in a volley by a rapid turn of the wrist. When the gun is empty the breech block is again withdrawn; the steel plate, carrying the empty cartridge cases, lifted out, and a fresh plate dropped in, if necessary. The advantage possessed by the machine gun over infantry fire is that it is never in a funk. Bullets may rain around, bursting shells may fill the air, still the thirty-seven barrels of the Mitrailleuse shoot like one man, and at 800 or 1,000 yards will pour volley after volley of deadly concentrated fire into a circle of from ten to twelve feet in diameter. No boring or fixing of fuses is required, and the whole operation is performed so rapidly that two steady cool men could maintain a fire of ten discharges per minute. On the other hand, the Mitrailleuse could not well compete with the field gun, and it is with this weapon it will assuredly be met. Its bullets would have comparatively slight effect at the ranges at which field artillery projectiles are perhaps most effective, while its size would offer a very fair mark to the gunner. The foreign Press are welcome to write *fanfaronnades* about the sudden death of wretched horses at incredible distances. This is peace practice. The horses came from the knacker's yard, not from the banks of the Elbe, and there were no Uhlands sitting on them. We are also tempted on such occasions to take the square root of the reported distance as the actual range. The future of the Mitrailleuse, however, depends on coming facts. The day's experiments are over; there are hundreds of machine guns trundling towards the Rhine. The drum-like roll of their volleys may ere long be heard in the vineyards of Rudesheim, or on the edge of the Black Forest; and the "thud" of the bullet may come from something softer than a wooden target. Yes, the machine gun is *en route* for the Rhine; the experiments will now be on a gigantic scale; and Mr. Cardwell may adjourn his special committee until after Christmas, at any rate. By that time the voice of war will have given the verdict; by that time the Chassepot, the sundnadelgewehr, the shrapnel, and the volley-gun will each be credited with a ghastly account, and we shall know which engine destroys human life in the shortest time, the easiest manner, and at the least possible expense.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Prince Gortschakoff has arrived in Paris.

The Empress is to be Regent during the Emperor's absence at the camp.

A meeting of the entire German community of Calcutta has been held, and expressed their sympathy with the national cause.

It is stated that one of the results of the war will be the postponement of Mr. Philip Stanhope's scheme for a line of Channel ferry steamers.

A telegram from Calcutta says:—"Business here is greatly disturbed, and the markets are depressed in consequence of the news received from Europe."

In addition to the mitrailleuses, a new revolving cannon, capable of firing forty rounds a minute, is vaguely hinted at in Paris.

Under the Treaty of Paris privateering was declared abolished, while neutral goods under the enemy's flag, and the enemy's goods under a neutral flag, were to be free, unless contraband of war.

The Foreign Office recommend English subjects proceeding to any part of the Continent to provide themselves with passports before setting out on their journey, and to have them duly *viséd* for the countries they propose to visit.

An order was received at Birmingham on Saturday for 80,000 rifles, and their destination is presumed to be France, as they are to be conveyed to the coast in wagons of the South-Eastern Railway Company.

A letter from Paris says:—"Several of those mysterious and terrible engines of war, the mitrailleuse, were despatched to the seat of war on Sunday. It was impossible to see what they are like, as they were carefully wrapped up in leather."

Information was on Monday received at the Board of Trade from the Foreign Office that a notice has been issued by the North German Government stating that on the northern coast of Germany orders have been given to take up the sea-marks, to withdraw the lightships, and to extinguish the fixed lights.

A notice has been issued by the Consul-General of the North German Confederation in London calling upon all German subjects in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland who are liable to military service to at once proceed to Germany. A number left London and Liverpool on Saturday.

The first blood in the Franco-Prussian war was shed on Saturday morning on the neutral territory of Liverpool. A leading merchant of that town employs several foreign clerks, and among these were three Frenchmen and four Prussians. As was natural, a discussion arose between them on the coming war, and mutual recriminations soon brought on actual fighting. Rulers and inkstands darkened the air, and blood flowed freely. The Frenchmen, though only three against four, had a decided advantage, and the Prussians were compelled to make a strategic movement to the private office, where they entrenched themselves until representatives of neutral powers intervened, and the fight was stopped. Two of the Prussians were taken to the hospital.

In the course of a *Daily Telegraph* leader we read that the conflict is likely to outdo all that were ever fought, in the lavish waste of life, and the mangling of "God's image." The French Emperor has ever been a connoisseur in artillery, and his generals burned months ago to use upon the Prussians the chassepot handled at Mentana, and the *mitrailleuse* triumphantly proved on the poor horses at Satory. The Prussians, in their turn, have sent to the frontier mysterious engines wrapped up in straw, and they are just completing a transformation of the needle-rifle which won Sadowa; while they have at their service the laboratory of Nobel, the patentee of nitro-glycerine, and are said to possess an extraordinary application of that annihilating compound, as well as a vast store of explosive bullets.

Prussia, as the representative of the North German Confederation, possesses nine fortresses of the first rank. Upon the Rhine she has Mayence, Coblenz, and Cologne; on the Elbe, Königstein and Magdeburg; also Stettin on the Oder; Posen, on the Wartha; Dantzig, at the mouth of the Vistula; and Königsberg, on the Prægel. All these fortresses are upon Prussian territory, except Mayence in Hesse, and Königstein in Saxony. The fortresses of the second order are Sarrelouis, Wesel, Minden, Erfurt, Torgau, Spandau, Glogau, Glatz, Neisse, Düppel, Kiel, Stralsund, and Colberg. The fortified places of the third rank are Wittenburg, Kœnig, Kustrin, Grandenz, Swinemunde, and Pillau. There are also other fortified points, such as the earthworks round Dresden, the bridges of Düsseldorf, Marienburg, and Dirahau, the mouths of the Weser and the Elbe, and the port of Memel.

THE COUNTRY NEAR METZ.—Present circumstances invest with much interest all that takes place in the neighbourhood of Metz, which is the actual bulwark of France towards Prussia, Rhenish Bavaria, and Luxembourg. Metz is within two hours by rail of the last-named place, three from Sarrelouis, and four from Trèves; the Moselle bathes alike the Belgian frontier, that of Rhenish Bavaria, and Prussia, near Sierck and Sarreguemines. The fortress of Bitché is on the limit of Bavaria, and Longwy is as near to Arlon as to Luxembourg. An iron-way unites Sarreguemines with Sarrebruck by a line, the starting-point of which is in France, but the course of which is entirely over Prussian territory by the right bank of the Sarre. Sierck is a small town situated on the right bank of the Moselle below Thionville, and at about three miles from the Prussian frontier. Forbach is a manufacturing centre, possessing a large railway-station on the line from Metz to Mayence. This line is of extreme importance to the Prussian army. The town is only four miles from Sarrebruck, a Prussian fortress, and at which place a telegraphic despatch on Sunday announced the concentration of six battalions of German infantry. Most of those places will probably be involved in the first movements of the war.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

In a few weeks the 1,654 miles of railway between Calcutta and Mooltan will be complete.

Don Carlos, now in Paris, is ordered to quit France.

A crisis has arisen at Athens in consequence of disagreements in the Ministry, and the King has returned.

We learn from New York that there has been no hotter June weather in twenty-five years. In New York there has been intense suffering.

A telegram from Blois states—but it has been officially contradicted—that an amnesty will be proclaimed for all the prisoners awaiting trial there for conspiracy with the exception of Megy.

The Swiss Council of State has ratified the St. Gothard Railway treaty by thirty-seven against five votes.

We learn from the United States that the Fenians Starr and Thompson have been sentenced to be confined for two years in the State Prison.

Locusts have again appeared in Scinde, destroying the indigo and cotton crops in the Nowshera division.

The thermometer ranging for several days above 97. On Sunday in Philadelphia the temperature reached 105 degrees.

The appointment of Mr. Frederick Theodore Frelinghuysen as Minister to Great Britain has been confirmed by the Senate, after an ineffectual opposition by Messrs. Sumner and Wilson, by a vote of 40 to 3.

The Khedive of Egypt is at Constantinople, and has been very cordially received by the Sultan. He has generously subscribed 40,000 livres towards the relief fund in connection with the recent great fire in Constantinople.

THE RED RIVER EXPEDITION.—A Toronto telegram says:—"The troops of the Red River expedition are leaving Thunder Bay, and the advance has commenced to move in boats from Shebandowan."

THE CROWN OF SPAIN.—The *Imparcial* announces that the question of convoking the Cortes is again being discussed, with a few to invest the Regent with the attributes of Royalty.

THE MASSACRE IN CHINA.—A telegram has been received in London, dated from Peking, June 25, coming *via* Kiatohka:—"Foucanier and three other Frenchmen have been massacred at Tientsin. Brother and family well. No danger here. Tientsin is now tranquil. The Cathedral, Convent, and Consulate have been burnt."

THE ALABAMA QUESTION.—President Grant has sent copies of the diplomatic correspondence relative to the Alabama claims, which shows that Earl Clarendon on the 6th of May, in response to Mr. Motley's proposition to reopen correspondence, stated that Her Majesty's Government considered it neither useful nor expedient to continue a controversial correspondence in which there was so little hope of one Government convincing the other.

A RAILWAY ON THE RIGI.—Mr. H. J. Kerr Porter communicates to the *Times* the result of his excursion on the railway commenced last winter upon the well-known mountain, the Rigi, which is visited by almost every tourist to see the sun rise. This new railway ascends an incline of one in four. A waggon laden with about a ton and a half of timber and twenty-five passengers in twenty minutes traversed 4,700 ft., and mounted about 1,170 ft. above the level of the lake.

AUSTRALIA.—Telegraphic news from Melbourne under date June 18th, is as follows:—"The Victorian Parliament is in session; 65,000l. had been voted in aid of emigration from England. The Intercolonial Conference is assembling. New Zealand will not be represented. A customs union between the colonies is proposed. The second of the new line of mail-steamers has arrived at Sydney from San Francisco. The Governor of South Australia is arranging for an overland telegraph to Adelaide *via* Darling. Advice from New Zealand announce that the war has ceased."

THE NEW FRENCH MINISTER AT WASHINGTON.—M. Prevost-Paradol was officially presented to President Grant on Saturday. The new Minister said he rejoiced at being selected for this mission at a time when the traditional friendship between France and the United States was darkened by no cloud. He would faithfully endeavour to strengthen the political sympathy and to enlarge the industrial and commercial relations between France and the United States. President Grant replied by assuring M. Prevost-Paradol of his cordial support in every effort to increase the commerce and to perpetuate the traditional amicable relations between the two countries.

THE INDIAN WAR IN AMERICA.—The latest New York papers to hand show that their anticipations of a general India war along the frontier are being realised. Most of the tribes, including the Yantons, Sioux, Arapahoes, Apaches, &c., are openly at war, and General Sheridan has sent to Sherman for reinforcements, which have at once been sent from Washington. The Sioux have committed fearful atrocities on their prisoners in the way of torture, before death came to their relief. In the face of this news, which comes from all parts of the frontier, the *New York Times* hopes that Congress will do nothing towards a reduction of the army, and complains that there are not now enough men to guard the frontier.

DR. LIVINGSTONE.—News of the safety of Dr. Livingstone was received at Table Bay on the 22nd of May by the schooner Montrose, Captain Anderson, from Zanzibar, March 13. Captain Anderson said he had a conversation with Dr. Kirk, and the doctor had told him that he had received a letter from Livingstone only a day or two previous and that Livingstone was not only alive, but well. This report turns out to be of no value. The latest news from Dr. Kirk is that there is no intelligence of Dr. Livingstone, and that none can be expected for some time. "The public," says Sir A. Murchison, "may make up their minds persistently to disbelieve all statements, either good or bad, as to the welfare of Dr. Livingstone which may be made during the next eight months, at the end of which time we may hope to learn that the great traveller is alive and well, and much the better for the supplies and canoes which are now on their way to him from England."

Court, Official, and Personal News.

On Thursday the Queen, accompanied by the Princesses Louise and Beatrice, and Prince Leopold, left Windsor Castle for Osborne.

The Prince and Princess Christian were to have left Windsor on Thursday night for the continent, but owing to the disturbed state of affairs, they did not go, although the saloon carriages for the journey were in readiness at the railway-station.

It is stated that a man-of-war has been despatched to Copenhagen, at the desire of the Queen, to convey to England the Princess of Wales and her children.

It is stated that one of the royal yachts will proceed at once to a continental port, to convey to this country the Crown Princess of Prussia (Princess

Royal of England), on a visit to Her Majesty the Queen at Osborne.

Mr. Childers was able to be present at the Cabinet Council held on Saturday. The only absentee was Mr. Bright.

The Archbishop of Canterbury attended the House of Lords on Friday night for the first time since his long and serious illness, and received the hearty congratulations of many noble lords upon his convalescence.

Sir Thomas Watson is gazetted one of the Physicians in Ordinary to Her Majesty in the room of the late Sir James Clark, and Dr. George Burrows one of the Queen's Physicians Extraordinary.

Mr. Baboo Chunder Sen is rapidly progressing towards recovery, and confidently expects to overtake all his engagements.

There is another vacancy in the office of Lord Justice of Appeal in Chancery, Sir G. M. Giffard having died on Thursday afternoon. The learned judge was fifty-seven years of age.

Mr. Justice Lush has written to the Rev. Dawson Burns, the metropolitan superintendent of the United Kingdom Alliance, announcing that he will become a member of that body, and an annual subscriber.

Mr. Thomas Hughes, M.P., is to sail on the 2nd of August for the United States, where he proposes to make a tour of three months' duration.

It is announced that the mud is to be removed from the bed of the Serpentine. 5,000l. additional is to be paid to the contractor for this, but it would cost 28,000l. to fill it up with gravel to a safe depth for bathers.

Parliamentary powers will (according to the *Architect*) be sought to authorise the formation of an embankment along the foreshore at Cremorne, with a view to the continuation of the Thames Embankment from its authorised termination at Chelsea to the northern end of Old Battersea Bridge.

The *Law Times* hopes that the successor to the late Lord Justice Giffard will be Mr. Mellish, Q.C., "who is by common consent the greatest lawyer in England."

The *Athenæum* hears that when Professor Tyndall and Mr. Deutsch were objected to as candidates for honorary degrees by a member of the Hebdomadal Council on grounds of orthodoxy, the Chancellor consented to the withdrawal of their names only with the view of protecting such eminent persons against the possible slight to which the narrowness of some of the members might have exposed them. On the discussion of the question in the Council several of the most eminent members, headed by the Dean of Christ Church, protested against the action which had been taken by the member before referred to, and then left the room.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.

CLASSIFIED MATRICULATION LIST.—JUNE, 1870.

The following is a classified list of Candidates who passed the late Examination for Matriculation.—

HONOURS DIVISION.—a McCann, Hugh, William, Liverpool Institute; b Frankland, Frederick William, University College and School; c Spokes, Arthur Hewett, Amersham Hall School; d Rees, Robert Montgomery, New Kingswood School and Eldon House; e Bamford, William, St. Outhbert's College, Ushaw; f Willis, Henry Gaye, University College; g Thompson, Arthur, St. Outhbert's College, Ushaw; h Sugden, Edward Holdsworth, Woodhouse Grove School; i Hague, William, Stonyhurst College; j Pyke, Lionel Edward, University College School and Rev. P. Magnus, B.A.; k Keed, Edward Herbert, University College School; l Paul, Harry Major, Plantation House, Dawlish; m Lazarus, Edward Henry, University College School; n Rosser, Alfred, St. Mark's College; o Jones, Robert Albert, Manchester Grammar School; p Rice, Edward Peter, Cheshunt College; q Shaw, James, private study; r Powell, Charles, private study; s Bennett, George Armstrong, private study, and Thomas, Henry Roger, Independent College, Taunton, equal; t Powell, Charles Augustus, Amersham Hall School, and Unjohn, William Henry, King's College School, equal; u Holmes, Robert Stratton, Cheshunt College; v Jones, Cyril Lloyd, Queen's College, Basingstoke; w Bond, Henry, Amersham Hall School; x Smith, Philip Vance, University and Manchester New Colleges; y Wright, Henry Charles, Royal Medical College, Epsom; z Loughnan, Francis O'Brien, Stonyhurst College, and Verco, Joseph Cooke, St. Peter's College, Adelaide, equal; aa Reed, Francis Ernest, Flounders College, and Wells, Henry, New College, equal; ab Jonas, Jacob Nathaniel, University College and Rev. P. Magnus, B.Sc.; ac Hopwood, Edgar Oswald, Manchester Grammar School; ad Donnelly, Terence Patrick, Stonyhurst College; ae Wilson, Joseph Henry, University College School and private tuition; af Jones, William Wansbrough, New Kingswood School, Bath; ag Jackson, Edwin, Owens College, and Lubinski, Louis, St. Outhbert's College, Ushaw, equal; ah Ball, William Edmund Bunting, Woodhouse Grove School; ai Hinton, Richard William, private study; aj Murphy, John Howard, private study; ak Pelham, John Frank, Liverpool College; al Wilkinson, Arthur Thomas, Woodhouse Grove School; am Newell, Arthur, private study; an Thompson, Joseph William, University College School and private tuition; ao Williams, Edward Aldred, Stonyhurst College; ap Birch-enough, John Henry, Strathmore House, Southport; aq Gover, William Henry, King's College School; ar Little, Joseph, St. Outhbert's College, Ushaw; as Carmichael, William, private study, and Dillon, James Henry, private study, equal; at Grierson, Samuel Mansell, Liverpool Institute and Queen's College, and Taylor, Edward, Stonyhurst College, equal; au Toope, Walter George, private study; av Rutherford, William Watson,

a Exhibition of Thirty Pounds per annum for Two Years. b Exhibition of Twenty Pounds per annum for Two Years. c Exhibition of Fifteen Pounds per annum for Two Years. d Prize of Ten Pounds. e Prize of Five Pounds. f Disqualified by age for Third Prize. g Prize of Five Pounds. h Obtained the Number of Marks qualifying for a Prize.

Queen's College, Liverpool; Ridger, Charles, private study, and Tildley, Edward Bewsey, Lansdown School, Bath, equal; Rex, Alfred Beilby, Harrogate College; Tarrant, Edward George, private tuition; Spratling, William Joseph, Holt Grammar School and private study; Carnell, Thomas, Owens College; Hobson, Lewis John, Bedford Commercial School; Jones, Chester, Wesleyan College, Taunton; Formby, Henry, St. Cuthbert's College, Ushaw; Greenfield, Joseph Henry, University College School; Huson, Charles William, Queen's College, Liverpool; Ratcliff, Thomas William, King's College School and private study; Briggs, George Shaw, University College; Hollings, Edmund Raven, private tuition; Smith, Theodore, Owens College; Dawson, William Goodhugh, Wesleyan College, Headingley.

FIRST DIVISION.—Adams, David, Normal College, Swansea; Alford, George Ernest, G. Heppel, Esq., M.A.; Ashby, Edmund, private study; Ashby, William, St. Cuthbert's College, Ushaw; Atkinson, William, St. Mary's, Donnybrook; Baines, Montague Charles Alexander, private study; Barker, Joseph, St. Cuthbert's College, Ushaw; Barling, Frederic Harvey, Owens College; Barrow, George, Philological School; Bartlett, Ernest William, private study; Barton, James Kingston, Bedford Grammar School; Bax, Alfred Ridley, private study; Benson, William, Stonyhurst College; Bishop, Ernest Anselm, St. Stanislaus College, Beaumont; Blake, Martin Joseph, St. Gregory's College, Downside; Bright, William Leatham, Grove House, Tottenham; Bryant, George William, private study; Burton, Samuel Herbert, Great Yarmouth College; Bury, Judson Sykes, Amersham Hall School; Byrne, John Joseph, St. Cuthbert's College, Ushaw; Carpenter, Harry William, Huntingdon Grammar School; Carrington, Robert Edmond, Gloucester General Infirmary; Chamberlin, Peter, private study; Claremont, Claude Clarke, North London Collegiate School; Clarke, Edwin Albany Tuckerman, Grammar School, Macclesfield; Clarke, Fielding, King's College; Coley, Samuel Birt, University College; Cowley, John Sainsbury, Dedham Grammar School; Cox, Isaac Spencer, Honiton Grammar School; Cox, Michael Francis, St. Mary's, Donnybrook; Crake, John William, private study; Curwen, Edward Spedding, Mill Hill School; Daniel, Alfred, New School, Llanelly; Daniels, George St. Leger, F. A. Hanbury, M.A.; Davidson, William Edward, Old Hove House School; Duke, Herbert, private tuition; East, George Thomas, Chorlton High School; Evans, John Overend, Owens College and private study; Farnworth, Joseph, Owens College; Farrell, Richard John, St. Mary's College, Oscott; Flint, Horace, Rev. J. Jackson, Cheshunt; Footner, John Bulkley, King's School, Sherborne, and private study; Fox, Richard Hingston, private study; Franks, Godfrey Firth, Forest School; Frost, Richard Graham, Stonyhurst College; Garthwaite, Liston, private study; Gibb, George Slegmann, University, Aberdeen, and private study; Gilks, William John, City of London School and private tuition; Glaisyer, Henry, private study; Gould, Harry Pearce, Amersham Hall School; Greg, Walter, private tuition; Hamilton, James Winterbottom, private study; Harris, Isidore, Jews' College; Harrison, John Herbert, Mr. Stewart, Blackheath; Henderson, John Henry, Chester College; Hipp, Edmund Gregory, private tuition; Holden, George Henry, Marlborough College; Holdsworth, Joseph, private study; Hopwood, Wilfred Francis, Manchester Grammar School; Huxley, John Chas., Birmingham and Edgbaston Proprietary School; Ineary, Samuel Reid, Regent's Park College; Innes, Edward Arthur Robert, Rev. C. Scott; Jackson, Arthur Wellesly, Stonyhurst College; Jackson, Fredk. William, Grammar School, Crediton; Jackson, John Charles, Durham Grammar School and private study; Jesson, Thomas, private study; Jones, John Horatio, Lancashire Independent and Owens Colleges; Johnson, George Stillingfleet, Marlborough College and Cranbrook Grammar School; Jones, Alfred, University College School; Jones, Alfred Hawkins, Owens College; Karfoot, William, Lancashire Independent and Owens College; Kelly, Joseph Francis, St. Patrick's College, Carlow; Kennedy, Edward John, St. Patrick's College, Carlow; Kerr, John, Dumbarton Academy; King, Richard John, private study; Laing, John Gerard, Clare College, Cambridge; Law, Edwin, private study; Learmonth, Arthur Cotton, University College and private study; Le Queene, Edwin Joseph, University College and private tuition; Lowe, Howard Griffiths, King Edward's School, Birmingham; Lucas, Morton, private study; Lupton, Edward, St. Cuthbert's College, Ushaw; M'Alinh, Thomas, private study; M'Carthy, William Patrick, St. Patrick's College, Carlow; M'Cullagh, Thomas Alexander, Wesley College; McKim, John Robert, private study; Mackinlay, James Egan Harrison, Rugby School; Macrosty, Peter, private study; Marle, Robert, private study; Mathias, James, private study; Mercier, Charles Arthur, private tuition; Milner, Edward, St. Bartholomew's Hospital; Montefiore, Leonard Abraham, Rev. P. Magnus, B.A., Bluecoat School; Moore, John, Devonport and Stoke Grammar School; Moore, Spencer le Marchant, University College; Morgan, William, Normal College, Swansea; Morrison, Humphrey, Headingley College; Mounsten, George Eames, private tuition; Neale, Joseph, private study; Newton, Walter Joseph, private study; Norburn, Henry, private study; Onions, Charles, Headingley College; Parker, George Williams, private tuition; Parker, Thomas Frederick, Philological School; Parkes, Alfred, Wesley College; Patmore, Tennyson Deighton, St. Cuthbert's College, Ushaw; Pease, Thomas Henry Ormston, private tuition; Perkins, Thomas Henry, private study; Pickup, William James, Owens College; Pinnell, Thomas Mark, Richmond House, Reading; Pollexfen, Henry, Dedham Grammar School; Potts, Edward, King Edward's School, Birmingham; Pyke, Magnus Joseph, University College School, and Rev. P. Magnus, B.A.; Rae, James, private study; Rebach, Samuel, King's College School; Reid, Peter, private study; Rice, Richard Horace Vincent, St. Patrick's College, Carlow; Richardson, Charles Frederick, Wesleyan College, Richmond; Roach, Nathaniel Amos, New College; Russell, Archibald James Holme, University College; Scard, Frederick Isenbart, Rev. G. T. P. Streeter; Scates, Gardner, Wesleyan College, Richmond; Schuler, John George Charles, private study; Scouller, William, private study; Seward, William Joseph, Chandos House, Hereford; Sheehy, William Henry Patmore, Merchant Taylors' School; Simmonds, William Allason, private study; Smith,

William James, Birmingham and Edgbaston Proprietary School; Southern, Thomas James, private study; Stanfeld, Joseph James, University College; Stanton, John Joseph Aloysius, St. Patrick's College, Carlow; Steel, Robert Elliott, Manchester Grammar School; Storr, Joseph, private study; Tait, Thomas Slater, Owens College; Taylor, Archibald, Wesleyan College, Richmond; Taylor, Robert William, University College; Thomas, David, Pontypool College; Thomas, George Tucker, St. Bartholomew's Hospital; Thomas, William, Spring Hill College; Thornton, John, Wesleyan Training College, Westminster; Thorp, John Joy, private study; Tilly, Alfred, Regent's Park College; Tinkler, George, Edinburgh Episcopal Trinity College; Toms, Joseph Henwood, Spring-hill College; Trafford, William Carey, Amersham Hall School; Trenchard, Hugh, Independent College, Taunton; Tuckwell, Joseph Henry, Regent's Park College; Turner, Francis Chamberlain, University College School and A. Sonnenschein; Vachell, Herbert Redwood, King's School, Sherborne; Vaughan, Harry Cleveland, University College School; Vaughan, Wyoliffe, Hampden House; Voelcker, George Henry, University College School; Vores, Benjamin Herbert, Rochester Grammar School; Warlow, Thomas Meyler, private study; Waters, Ernest Edward, Owens College; Waugh, Henry Dunn, King's College School; Weber, Charles Alfred, private study; Wedmore, Charles Ernest, Grove House, Tottenham; Whitelegge, Benjamin Arthur, private study; Wilcock, John, Wesley College; Wildey, George Gordon, King's College School; Wilding, Sidney Pattenhall, private tuition; Wileman, Joseph Philip, F. Fooks, B.A., Bristol; Wilkie, George, Flounders College; Wilson, George Stacey, Grove House, Tottenham; Wood, John Robert, St. Cuthbert's College, Ushaw; Wyon, Herbert Thornton, Hampden House.

SECOND DIVISION.—Agostini, Edgar Louis, St. Gregory's College, Downside; Bedson, Peter Phillips, Manchester Grammar School; Boulting, William, University College; Burgoyne, William Henry, New College; Cassan, Theodore, King's College; Chadwick, Charles, St. Cuthbert's College, Ushaw; Davy, David Henry, private tuition; Goodeve, Henry Edward; Godolphin School, Hammersmith; Gray, Alexander, University College and private tuition; Greathed, William, private study; Griffiths, Richard Foulkes, Baptist College, Llangollen; Harvard, John Craske, Wesleyan College, Didsbury; Heaton, William James, Wesleyan College, Didsbury; Hill, William, St. Cuthbert's College, Ushaw; Hodge, Arthur, private tuition; Hooper, Walter Field, private tuition; Jackson, Robert Alexander, University College and private tuition; Jupp, William Jesse, Western College; Kisch, Henry, Rev. D'Arcy Irvine, M.A.; Lovett, Richard, Cheshunt College; Miller, Frederic Daniell, King's College School; Monteith, Joseph Francis Stanislaus Robert, St. Stanislaus, Beaumont; Murray, André Allen, private tuition; Phillips, William Harcourt, Marlborough School and Mr. Hanbury; Rowntree, William George, private tuition; Ryland, Frederick, Mead House, Biggleswade; Shera, Henry Arthur, Wesley College; Smith, Edward, private study; Sutcliffe, Thomas, Regent's Park College; Syers, Henry Walter, private tuition; Terry, John, private study; Tucker, Charles Edward, Mr. Stewart, Blackheath; Verrall, William Frederick, T. C. Hatton, B.A.; Worthing; Wade, Arthur Bruden, Marlborough College.

Law and Assize.

TRIALS FOR MURDER IN TIPPERARY.—At the Tipperary Assizes on Monday Patrick Curran was convicted of the wilful murder of Patrick Gorman, near Clonmel, and was sentenced to death. The cause of the murder, which was committed in March last, appeared to be jealousy. Curran waylaid the deceased, and struck him with a stone, which killed him instantaneously. In the case of Patrick Gleasane, charged with the murder of a bailiff, named Kirwan, at Holycross, in which the jury disagreed, the Attorney-General for Ireland intimated his intention to put the prisoner again on his trial.

TRIAL UNDER THE IRISH COERCION ACT.—The Irish Coercion Act of last April has just been brought into play at the Tipperary Assizes in an interesting manner. The widow of a man named Patrick Kirwan, who was murdered on the 11th of April, a few days after the Coercion Bill became law, applied for compensation under the thirty-ninth section. Her solicitor, reminding the grand jury of the circumstances of this murder, pointed out that it was clearly of an agrarian character. A gentleman named Clarke, a landlord in that neighbourhood, had evicted a family named Gleasane from a holding on his estate. Patrick Kirwan was put in charge of the premises to take care of them, and on the 11th of April he was foully murdered. The thirty-ninth section of the act made it incumbent on a grand jury in such a case as this to award compensation to the relatives of the murdered person, and levy the sum on the county at large, barony, half-barony, or other district at their discretion. The Crown Solicitor supported the application, and the jury, after some deliberation, decided to pass a presentment for 400*l.*, to be paid as compensation to the widow.

THE WELSH FASTING GIRL CASE.—The trial of Evan and Hannah Jacobs, for the manslaughter of their daughter Sarah (the Welsh fasting girl), which opened on Thursday, was continued yesterday at Carmarthen. The court was densely crowded, the speeches of the counsel for the defence and the reply of Mr. Hardinge Giffard being listened to with marked attention. The learned judge summed up in a very elaborate manner, and asked the jury to pay particular attention to all the facts of the case. He ruled that although the girl might have been, and probably was, a consenting party to the fraud, yet parents were bound to supply the wants of their children of tender years, and if the prisoners, in order to avoid detection of the fraud which they had entered upon, refused food to the girl, they were guilty of manslaughter. The jury after about half

an hour's deliberation found both prisoners guilty, but recommended the wife to the merciful consideration of the court, as they believed that she acted under the control of her husband. The judge said he entirely concurred in the verdict, and he should adopt their recommendation as regarded the wife, because it was just possible that she was under the control of her husband more than had appeared. Still both had been guilty of an aggravated offence, for no doubt they both assisted in this fraudulent deception on their neighbours and the public, and in order to carry it out they risked the life of their child, and she died. The male prisoner was sentenced to twelve months' hard labour, and the wife to six months' hard labour.

TRIAL FOR THE CHELSEA MURDERS.—At the Old Bailey, on Wednesday, before the Lord Chief Justice, Walter Miller was indicted for the wilful murder of the Rev. Elias Heulin and Ann Boss, at Chelsea, on the 9th of May last. The prisoner was put on his trial for the murder of Mr. Heulin. Mr. Poland, at some length, opened the case for the Crown. He said that the deceased was a clergyman of the French Protestant Church, aged eighty-four years, and amongst some other property he owned some houses in Chelsea, and he lived at No. 15, Paulton-square, in that parish. His housekeeper was named Ann Boss, and she was forty-eight years of age. In May last one of Mr. Heulin's houses in Wellington-square had been undergoing repairs, and there was a bill in the window announcing that the house was to be let. The prisoner had been employed to do some of the repairs, and a Mrs. Middleton to clean the house. From the manner in which the murders were committed, it was evident that the murderer had carefully prepared his plans, and had resolved first to kill the clergyman and then Mrs. Boss. On Monday, the 9th of May, the housekeeper was seen cleaning the door-steps at 7.30 a.m., and about nine o'clock Mr. Heulin left his own house, and was seen about eleven o'clock near his house in Wellington-square. He was never seen alive afterwards. It would be proved that the prisoner ordered a man to dig a drain in the back yard of the house, and subsequently the body of Mr. Heulin was found in that drain. Blood was discovered in a cupboard near the stairs, and there was no doubt that after having been murdered the rev. gentleman's body had been deposited in that cupboard prior to being put into the drain. The hat of the deceased was also found, and his coat was lying under the body. It would also be proved that the prisoner requested Piper, a van proprietor, to remove a box from Paulton-square, and when he was cording it blood oozed out, and Piper thought that something was wrong, and held the accused till the box was opened, and it was ascertained that it contained the body of Mrs. Boss, with a rope tied round her neck. It would also be shown that on the night of the 9th May a person speaking with a French accent took the key of Wellington-square to a Mrs. Middleton, at Fulham, and he told Mrs. Middleton to go to Wellington-square and take care of the house, as Mr. Heulin had gone into the country. Miller had shaved off his beard and whiskers, and it would be attempted to be proved that he was the man who took the key, and that he only assumed the French accent, and pretended that he was Mr. Heulin's nephew. When searched some letters addressed to Mrs. Boss, and title-deeds belonging to Mr. Heulin (covered with blood), were found in the prisoner's possession. Voluminous evidence was given in support of this statement, but the case was not concluded when the Court rose. The case was resumed on Thursday, when Mr. Collins addressed the jury for the defence. He urged that the prosecution were bound to make out their case beyond a reasonable doubt, and if there was the smallest doubt the prisoner was entitled to an acquittal. The prisoner could not be called upon to give evidence himself, but he said through his (Mr. Collins') lips that Miller was the dupe of a person whom he believed to be the nephew of Mr. Heulin. After the summing-up of the judge, the jury took ten minutes to consider their verdict of "Guilty." The Lord Chief Justice, in sentencing the prisoner to death, implored him not to deceive himself with any hopes that the sentence would be remitted, and concluded by a most earnest exhortation to the prisoner to seek forgiveness of God. Sentence of death was then passed in the usual form. His lordship ordered the witness Piper, the carman, to stand forward, and said that it was mainly due to his courage that the perpetrator of two of the most atrocious murders ever heard of had been brought to justice. He was glad that by an Act of Parliament he had the power of ordering some reward. He had great pleasure in awarding him 50*l.* The announcement was received with applause. Miller will be executed on August 1st.

FENIAN CONVICTION FOR TREASON FELONY.—At the Old Bailey on Monday, the two men charged with treason-felony in connection with the Fenian conspiracy were found guilty and sentenced, the one to fifteen, the other to seven years' penal servitude. The prisoner Wilson was a working gunmaker at Birmingham, in company with two Irishmen, named Minningham and Gill. The Birmingham police received instructions from Ireland to watch their manufactory, and were at once baffled in inquiring what became of the arms. At last they noticed that frequent communication was held with a cottage in a remote corner of the town, occupied by an Irishman. This cottage being watched, Minningham and Wilson were observed to wheel up a truck with an empty box, and in about an hour to come away with the same box, apparently rendered heavier, and to carry it with great haste to the railway-station. It was there opened by the police, and was found to contain rifles and bayonets. It was addressed to John Wilson, at Leeds, and at the Leeds

station Wilson himself, with another man, applied for it and conveyed it to a warehouse which had been taken by Davitt, ostensibly for the purpose of storing dry goods. The same day four barrels were taken from the warehouse to the station, which, by their address cards, purported to come from dealers in Leeds, but the names were fictitious. They were destined for different parts of Ireland, and, strange to say, were addressed to real persons. Those persons, however, were adduced as witnesses at the trial, and deposed that they knew nothing of such a transaction. These barrels were intercepted in Dublin, and were found to contain arms, which had evidently been packed with a view to concealment. Similar proceedings were traced between the cottage at Birmingham and other towns, Davitt being concerned in the consignments and personating consignees. At length it became known that the consignments to the North were intercepted by the police, and Davitt then came to town under the name of Matthews. A fortnight later he went to the Paddington station to meet a train by which Wilson came from Birmingham, and at this point the police interposed and arrested both men. Wilson had then parcels with him, which were found to contain fifty revolvers. Davitt himself had professed no other occupation than that of a travelling draper. The facts, therefore, the prisoners had to explain were the frequent consignments of arms from fictitious consignors to fictitious consignees in Ireland, or in towns where the Fenian organisation was known to prevail. It was proved, both by the informer Corydon, and by a detective officer who had watched the Fenians, that Davitt had attended Fenian meetings, and had associated with leading Fenians now undergoing sentence for treason-felony. It was impossible, in the absence of any counter evidence whatever, to avoid the conclusion that all these stealthy consignments of arms were for Fenian purposes, and that Davitt was acting as a Fenian agent. An attempt to show the possibility of mistaken identity in Davitt's case offered the only real show of defence, and this completely broke down. The prisoner Davitt, as sentence was about to be passed made an earnest appeal to the judge, not for himself, but for Wilson, stating that if Wilson was guilty he (Davitt) was to blame for his guilt, and that Wilson never knew until he arrived at the Paddington station that he (Davitt) was an Irishman or that his name was not Robert Jackson. He would cheerfully, he said, undergo any additional punishment if Wilson's wife and family could be saved from a workhouse, and he begged that his punishment, if the sentence against Wilson was irrevocable, might be added to his (Davitt's) sentence. The Lord Chief Justice proceeded to pass sentence. Davitt, his lordship said, had done himself much credit by the manner in which he had spoken in reference to the prisoner Wilson; but as regarded himself, it was his duty to pass a severe sentence, with the view of deterring others from pursuing objects which could only lead to mischief, desolation, and bloodshed. The sentence was that he be condemned to penal servitude for fifteen years. As for the prisoner Wilson, he appeared to have been a mere tool in the hands of others—very likely of his partner in the business and of the man who had just left the bar. He could not, indeed, believe that Wilson did not know the use to which those arms might be put; but he would see if he could not find some distinction between his case and that of Davitt. It was, however, beyond doubt that he had, for the purpose of making money, lent himself to the fabrication of arms which were intended to be used for a treasonable purpose. He sentenced him (Wilson) now to seven years' penal servitude; but, meanwhile, he should have the matter as to him further investigated, and if the advisers of the Crown should think Wilson had been deluded, he had no doubt they would take his case into their merciful consideration.

THE NEW IRISH MOVEMENT.—It is stated that in a few days, certainly before the close of the session, Mr. Maguire will give notice of a motion for next session, raising a distinct issue on the necessity of granting to Ireland a local legislature, such as that possessed by each of the provinces of the Dominion of Canada. Mr. Maguire does not propose to interfere with the representation of Ireland in the Imperial Parliament, but to give to Ireland, through the machinery of a provincial legislature, the control of her own internal affairs.

THE VOLUNTEER CAMP AT WIMBLEDON.—The prize shooting continues from day to day. Several interesting matches were concluded on Saturday. The contest between the Lords and Commons was very close, and won this year by the former by ten points; Lords Duane, Denbigh, Wharfedale, and Cloncurry scoring 289, and Messrs. Malcom, Wells, Fordyce, and Lord Eloho, 279. Last year the Commons won by 18 points. The International Enfield Challenge Trophy was won by England; the total scores being—England, 1,076; Scotland, 1,041; and Ireland, 1,032. Last year the figures were—England, 1,112; Scotland, 1,092; Ireland, 1,037. On Monday, Lieut. Eddison, of Leeds, won the Alexandra Cup, valued at 50*l.*; whilst the Belgian Challenge Cup, for volley firing, fell to the Queen's Westminster Corps. For the Any Rifle Association Cup, Captain Fenton has made fifty-seven—within one of the highest possible score. The Queen's Prize was decided yesterday. The hero of the meeting of 1870 is Private Humphries, of the 6th Surrey, a name hitherto unfamiliar in Queen's Prize competitions, but an exceedingly steady, quiet shot.

Literature.

BRIEF NOTICES.

Horae Tennysonianae, Sive Elogiae e Tennysoni Latine redditae. Cura A. J. CHURCH, A.M. (Macmillan et Soc., Lond.) We have found much pleasure in looking over these translations into Latin verse of portions of Tennyson's poetry. Many hands have united in the preparation of this little volume, and not the least interesting feature in it is the characteristic difference in the modes of rendering of each translator. Taste, culture, and appreciation of Tennyson, belong to them all. The power of catching the classical spirit is, however, by no means equally the gift of all. To us it seems that the translations of the late Professor Conington are of rare excellence. The "Swallow" song from the "Princess" is exquisitely rendered; so is the verse from "Stanzas to J. S."

"God gives us love. Something to love
He lends us; but, when love is grown
To ripeness, that on which it thrives
Falls off, and love is left alone."

"Sensibus inseruit nostris Deus auctor amorem,
Fabula poseit amor, nec quod amemus abest;
Mox, ubi prodit amor fructum, quod amavimus ut flos
Excidit, et restat pectore solus amor."

Here is another of Professor Conington's renderings. This is true translation, the transference of English into classical modes of thought as well as of expression.

"Her tears fell with the dews at even;
Her tears fell ere the dews were dried;
She could not look on the sweet heaven,
Either at morn or eventide."

Upon the middle of the night,
Waking she heard the night-fowl crow;
The cock sung out an hour ere light:
From the dark fen the oxen's low
Came to her: without hope of change,
In sleep she seemed to walk forlorn,
Till cold winds woke the grey-eyed morn
About the lonely moated grange."

"Flet quoties sero descendunt vesperes rores,
Flet nondum rores decutiente die.
Non valet ad laetum volutus atollere caelum
Sed Sol imponit seu juga demit equis."

Nox medium complebat iter: simul exorta somno
Nocturnas audit fundere carmen aves:
Nondum aderat Phoebus: galli vox personat umbram;
Sublustris pecudum murmura reddit ager.
Deserta in somnis visa est sine fine vagari,
Nec sperat gratas affore posse vias,
Dum gelidi ducant albentia lumina venti,
Cingit ubi solam fossa inamoena domum."

The Editor, Mr. Church, has also given us some renderings of considerable merit:—

"As thro' the land at eve we went,
And pluck'd the ripen'd ears,
We fell out, my wife and I,
O we fell out, I know not why,
And kiss'd again with tears."

For when we came where lies the child
We lost in other years,
There above the little grave,
O, there above the little grave
We kiss'd again with tears."

"Delia maturas mecum carpebat aristas,
Vespere per flavos dum spatiamur agros.
Nescio qua causa nobis brevis arserat ira;
Mox vetus est lacrymis conciliatus amor.
Contigit advenisse locum, qua conditus infans,
Quem prius heu! nobis abstulit atra dies;
Par stetit maestum oespes qua lene tumescit;
Sic vetus est lacrymis conciliatus amor."

Mr. White's translation of this same song is also good. He gives, what Mr. Church does not attempt, the repetitions in lines three and four of the original verses.

The Cultivation of the Speaking Voice. By JOHN HULLAH. (Oxford: at the Clarendon Press. 1870.) The two articles which Mr. Hullah contributed to the *Contemporary Review* of last year, with some alterations and additions, are here turned into a manual, and form a welcome addition to the Art Series of the Clarendon Press. Elocution masters of other days directed the attention of their pupils rather to details than to first principles, giving elaborate directions for articulation, emphasis, and style, but paying no attention to the formation and management of the voice. Mr. Hullah's treatise is confined to the description of the vocal mechanism, and to the necessity and practicability of its culture. Quoting Professor Willis, he proves that we are led to the very satisfactory and encouraging conclusion, that of the four properties of a voice—intensity, compass, flexibility, and *timbre*—incomparably the most important, *timbre*, depends not on the lungs, windpipe, or larynx—ocult organs over which we have little direct control—but almost exclusively on the disposition of that portion of the vocal mechanism which is most open to observation and most obedient to the will. The tables at the end of the volume present most, if not all, the monosyllabic combinations of the English alphabet, classified according to their principal vowels and consonants, or combination of consonants, initial or final. They will serve as exercises for the voice, and as a means whereby the student may ascertain those combinations his utterance of which is imperfect or attended with difficulty. The utterance of each syllable is to be preceded by a rapid inspiration, and accompanied (or achieved) by as slow an expiration as possible. No change whatever should be made in the position of an

part of the variable opening during the utterance of an unmixed vowel. The formation of the consonant, initial or final, is to be all but instantaneous. Speaking of the vocal registers, Mr. Hullah makes the following reference to "clerical sore throat":—

"The exclusive use of one and that the weaker register, 'as, indeed, any other form of bad production of the voice, is attended not only with inconvenience—the inconvenience of being unpleasantly heard, or the greater one of not being heard at all—but even with 'some danger'—that of a chronic disorganisation of the vocal mechanism. We have all heard of 'clerical sore throat.' The expression is familiar and accepted. 'Everybody knows what it means. It is attributed to a variety of causes, most often to over-exertion of the vocal organs. Yet a little consideration might show that this cause has, in most cases, no part in it whatever. For who, among the body whence it derives its particular appellation, are the principal sufferers from it? Those who are concerned in daily services, or those whose public ministrations are for the most part limited to one day in the week? Notoriously the latter. Moreover, whoever heard of 'histrionic' or 'theatrical' sore throat? It would be rash to assert that there is no such disorder, but assuredly there is no special and accepted name for it. During how many days or hours in a year is the work of an actor in the fullest occupation interrupted by disorganisation of the vocal powers? As a rule, not seldom, but never. Thus we are inevitably driven to two conclusions:—1. That clerical sore throat is not generally, if ever, the mere result of over-exertion; and, 2. That the majority of actors know how to produce their voices, and the majority of the clergy do not. Except, therefore, in those rare cases where the organisation, laryngeal or pulmonary, is naturally so feeble as to render any exercise of the voice dangerous, clerical sore throat would seem to be the result, not of too much exercise of the vocal mechanism, but of too little. This proposition, however, requires qualification." Mr. Hullah's small treatise might be usefully taken as a class-book in our upper schools and colleges.

The Tragedy of Lesbos. By E. H. PEMBER. (London: Macmillan and Co.) Mr. Pember's has the faults of a young man's work. Such is the display of zeal in his preface on behalf of sensuality in women. Such, too, is the truculence of the tragedy. Perhaps the lack of fidelity and life-likeness in the *dramatis personae* is more than a fault of inexperience; Mr. Pember shows no dramatic power, his characters are only lay figures, without individuality, and awakening no interest in the reader. And yet there is poetic force, there is vigorous imagery combined with apt and musical expression in many of his lines.

"Nay, Megara, thou canst not weary me;
For all I am is steeped in weariness.
Weary the wild bird calling for her mate
Thro' the soft busy girlhood of the year,
The while he worketh at another's nest,
Or carollet alone and careth not.
And weary is the wounded hind, whose ear
Hath caught cool music from a careless stream,
That will not turn a charitable flood,
But leaveth her to die within its sound;
And weary, too, the temple which its God
Disdains to enter. Wearier am I."

This speech of Sappho's occurring early in the volume awakened expectations that the poem, as a whole, has by no means fulfilled. Have we here, too, a lack indicative of youth? The feeling of *ennui*, the *tedium vitae*, comes earlier than the experience of passion. If it be so, Mr. Pember may yet give us some good verse. Here is one of Mr. Pember's songs:—

"Robed in shadow, wreathed with light,
Nursling of day's latest splendour,
With a myriad graces bright,
With a myriad whispers tender.
Hespera, who dost love to keep
Sorrow's softer hours from winging;
Hespera, who dost love to steep
Sad souls at sunset singing.
Mild-browed nymph, ah, haste thee here!
Carry this my homage to her;
Tell her she is far too dear
Unto me for me to woo her."

The Immortals; or, Glimpses of Paradise. By NICHOLAS MICHELL. (London: William Tegg.) Mr. Michell's preface and notes invite our criticism not only on the poetical worth of his book, but also on his philosophical and scientific accuracy. In none of these aspects do we find his work at all worthy of commendation. There is fluency in his writing, and a certain rhetoric, but there is neither imagination nor taste, and but little fancy. Mr. Michell has not grasped the philosophical conception of spirit; nor does he help us much in our conception when he tells us that spirit

"is progress in high Being's march,
Aspiring still, and marching nearer God."
He has given us a description of the flight of angels: "It is not fancy that hath bound bright wings,
Like rainbows set on alabaster hills,
Upon the angel's shoulder. Through all depths
Stretches the ethery ocean, yet so rare,
Comets alone the viewless medium feel.
Our air birds sail; a million times refined,
The blue abyss is swept by angel-plumes,
Dashing aside the long, long ether-waves,
In phosphorescent undulations bright,
And keeping pace with beams that cross the void
From distant blazing stars."
Without pausing to ask where the phosphorus comes

from, we observe that if it were as Mr. Michell has described, we should see the angels.

My Thoughts. Poems, by DOROTHEA MARIA OGILVY, of Clova. (Edinburgh: William Blackwood and Sons.) There is a very pleasant simplicity about Miss Ogilvy's poems, of which the title is suggestive. It does not mean egotism, but naturalness; Miss Ogilvy does not intend that these being her thoughts must needs be worth communicating:

"My heart's true wish is, other hearts to bless
With the same thoughts that gave me happiness."

To speak of the originality of this volume might be too much, but it is a volume of great freshness. It indicates a musical nature, sensitive to natural influences and loving to utter itself. Miss Ogilvy is not a great poet, but she is a true poetess; anyone who reads her verses will cherish a kindly remembrance of them. Her Scottish poems are perhaps her best; the echo of Burns in the one from which we quote is distinctly audible, but the verses are not a mere echo.

"Oh! leese me on the bonny flower
That blooms on craigs and fells,
The bravest flower, the sweetest flower—
Auld Scotland's heather bells!
On rocky shelves the blaut blaws,
And boos its graceful head;
The lily lo'es the lowland shaws,
By many a streamlet fed.
Spiel up the braes, my winsome doo,
Whar snaw the torrent swells,
And learn a lad the way to woo
Amang the heather bells!
Oh! blobs o' caller dew may fa'
Whar clover scents the breeze,
And lucken-gowans, tipped wi' snaw,
May charm the hummel bees.
Ilk Grampian cocks its bonnet blue,
And buckles on its plaid;
The lowlan' lass will never rue
That lo'es a Hieland lad.
Spiel up the braes, my dainty doo,
The corries, craigs, and fells,
And lat me pree your bonny mou'
Amang the heather bells."

"Oh! mind aye, lass, the simmer day
We daunert by oursel's
On yonder sunny birken brae,
And pu'd the heather bells;
A laithfu' sweetheart twined a wreath,
And wistna what to say;
Syne softly sighd aneath his breath,
'Ye've wiled my heart away!'
Spiel up the braes, my coothis doo,
The corries, craigs, and fells,
And learn a lad the way to woo
Amang the heather bells."

"My bonny bird, my genty Jean!
This heart is fairly thine;
I didna ken, a year yestreen,
I had a heart to tine.
The blythesome laverock wooes his bride
Aboon the sprouting corn;
The eagle on the mountain side—
And we'll be wed the morn.
Spiel up the braes, my ain kind doo,
Whar snaw the torrent swells,
And there I'll pree your bonny mou'
Amang the heather bells!"

"Sweet marjoram and gowans bloom
Aside my wee bit cot,
Wild tansy, yellow cups, and broom,
And blue forget-me-not.
We'll mind the kye, we'll clip the sheep,
And kame the tarry woo;
The seed we'll sow, the harvest reap,
And aye be leal and true.
Spiel up the braes, my dauter doo,
The corries, craigs, and fells,
Oh! leese me on the lass I lo'e
Amang the heather bells!"

A Commentary on the Confession of Faith: with Questions for Theological Students and Bible Classes By the Rev. A. A. HODGE, D.D., Author of "Outlines of Theology," &c. Edited by W. H. GOULD, D.D. (T. Nelson and Sons.) This book is a worthy one in its way. It is more than a mere commentary. In the outset we have a short chapter on creeds and confessions in general, which is a model of clear condensation, and it closes with three several essays, by way of appendix, on "Presbyterianism," "What is meant by adopting the Westminster Confession?" and on the "Passages concerning the Magistrate's Power in Religion." Great pains have evidently been taken to make the work complete; but author, and friends, and English, or rather Scotch editor (for Dr. Gould is a Cameronian, and known as a man of learning and a thinker), are each and all too much partisans of the Confession to discriminate where discrimination is most needful. It is more and more evident that the real value of the Westminster symbol is becoming historical, that it has ceased to represent the real feelings of any very large body of men nowadays, at all events men who seek to keep abreast of the advancing wave of theological thought. Some of the high encomiums on the Confession as a final and absolute expression of the cardinal truths of theology which we meet with here, must be in greater or less degree disallowed. At the same time, however, the volume is thorough, and represents no little study, research, and thought, and will assuredly be of great use to students and others who may wish to see the varying attitudes in which those have stood who have accepted it as their symbol. But the very fact of such a volume appearing either in this country or America is a proof that the relations to the Confession are growing more varied, indefinite, and qualified; and in this respect also the volume deserves a hearty welcome, for men don't

seek to strictly define the sense in which truths are received till what are conceived to be doubtful interpretations have come in vogue. The Christian Church itself continued to exist for a good while without defined creeds, which only came into existence when heresies increased and had to be warded off by some means or other. Commentaries on the Westminster Confession may be taken to show that heresies in relation to it are likewise on the increase:—

"The old order changeth, yielding place to new,
And God fulfils Himself in many ways."

Faith's Jewels Presented in Verse, with other Devout Verses. By Lord KINLOCH. (Edinburgh: Edmonston and Douglas.) The peculiar merits of Lord Kinloch's "Studies for Sunday Evening" mark this volume. Its tone is that of an unaffected, but by no means shallow, piety; the thinking is sound without being massive; the expression simple; all, too, is stamped with the author's own sincerity. Of artistic merit the volume has not much; Lord Kinloch has indeed anticipated this criticism, by not calling his work "poems," but "verses." They are not poems, they lack both poetic inspiration and poetic skill. But some of the verses are sweet and touching; especially when Lord Kinloch is speaking most what preachers call "experientially." The first poem in the book is one of the most characteristic. For a few verses he speaks of the Lord's Prayer in rather a meagre fashion; then he touches on a vein of personal experience; and thought, feeling, fancy, expression are all enriched and elevated thereby.

"I stood beside the dying bed
Of one, who long my light had shed;
And the last sob poor nature knows
Called me the eyes I loved to close.

Upwards I fain a prayer would send,
But none I into shape could bend;
God I could not beseech, nor thank;
The soul was all one dreary blank.

On the parched lips, with anguish dumb,
I found no other words would come,
Save those of Christ's own simple prayer,
Fixed with my earliest language there.

I said the prayer with childlike heart,
And felt my agony depart;
Then paid the duties which I owed
With strength as if from heaven bestowed.

I seemed the little child to be,
Who bends beside a father's knee,
And lips his childlike prayer; and then
Springs to his father's heart again."

The Golden Treasury Psalter. Being an Edition with Briefer Notes of the Psalms Chronologically arranged. By FOUR FRIENDS. Student's Edition. (Macmillan and Co.) Familiarity oftener breeds blindness to distinctions than the temper that is proverbially assigned to it. It is astonishing how, owing to our very habit of reading Scripture, we fail very often to mark the force of its transitions, the infinite humanity couched in its figures, and the deep significance of its silences. Of no portion of the inspired Scriptures is this more true than of the Psalms. One does not see how much is lost to us through our not having the antiphonal changes clearly marked to the eye, till one examines such a work as this, which is now before us in a new edition, not to be surpassed for neatness and handiness. This is one of the best results of criticism. The Psalms are arranged according to date of production, the technical and half-mystical habits of the Hebrew poets in catching on letters and words for pegs of lyrical utterance, are here clearly indicated, the antiphonies are distinguished, and a body of most valuable notes added. It is a gem, and to every student of God's word, we simply say without reserve—get a copy of the "Student's Golden Treasury Psalter," assured that the purchase will never be regretted. How apt and choice are these quaint words of the good Miles Coverdale, which the authors have chosen for motto:—"It shall greatly helpe ye to understand Scripture yf thou marke not onely what is spoken or wrytten, but of whom, unto whom, with what wordes, at what tyme, where, to what intent, with what circumstance, contraryng what goeth before and what followeth after."

Political Economy for Beginners. By MILLICENT GARETT FAWCETT. (London and Cambridge: Macmillan and Co.) Although a knowledge of the elementary principles of political economy is what every person ought to possess, the science can scarcely yet be said to form a portion of our regular educational system. This is partly owing to the uninviting character of the subject. The mere mention of a treatise on political economy is sufficient to make most people yawn; and if this be the case with adults what must it be with the young? Teachers have long felt the difficulty of making their scholars take an interest in mastering the simplest rules of the science. Hence the many efforts by Charles Knight, Mrs. Marcet, Harriet Martineau, and other writers on political economy to prepare elementary works intended for the use of beginners; but, somehow or other, it is found almost impossible to render the principles described intelligible or popular to the young. Mrs. Fawcett's work is the latest attempt in this direction, but we cannot say it is the most successful. Descriptions of protection, free trade, reciprocity, balance of trade, paper currency, trades unions, strikes, co-operation, and so forth, are not likely to render "political economy a more popular study in boys' and girls' schools," as desired by Mrs. Fawcett. What can young

persons know of such things? For all practical purposes the lessons in political economy in the Irish school books are infinitely superior. We say this with regret, because Mrs. Fawcett's little manual has evidently been prepared with great care. It is a capital handy book for adults, but for young persons it is almost useless.

My Schoolboy Friends. A Story of Westminster Grammar School. By A. R. HOPE. (W. P. Nimmo.) Mr. Hope has already written books somewhat akin to this which have passed through two or three editions. The present volume is written for the amusement of boys, and would be little likely to interest readers of any other class. Mr. Hope in his preface says:—"I have simply tried to represent 'the ordinary life of ordinary boys at a very ordinary sort of school, and if grown up critics condemn my representation as uninteresting, I appeal to my juvenile reader, who, for this once only, is requested to perform 'the part of Cæsar.'" We predict with some confidence that this appeal will be successful. Mr. Hope has enough of the boy in him to prevent his forgetting what so many writers for boys and girls do forget, that young people like movement; they have a natural horror of anything that drags. Mr. Hope's book is full of schoolboy freaks, from those of a mild and comparatively innocent character to those which he and all right thinking boys would strongly reprobate. But whether the offence which he chronicles is the running-up of a confectioneer's bill, a united bolster match, a fight with the town boys, or a conspiracy to bewilder an incompetent master—the chronicle is never dull, nor is he, on the other hand, so much of a school boy partisan as to aid and abet him in acts of insubordination. The book is a holiday book, but it is one which, while it amuses, will not fail of strengthening good impulses and discouraging disobedience and vice.

Reminiscences of America in 1869. By Two Englishmen. (Sampson Low, Son, and Marston.) This book, which is published in a very handy form, would have probably obtained a wider circulation had it not been issued simultaneously with Mr. Macrae's larger work of "The Americans at Home." Having noticed that work at considerable length, we shall note here the points of difference in the structure of the two works. Mr. Macrae was chiefly intent upon giving characteristic sketches of social manners and of persons, as well as noteworthy incidents which came within the range of his observation. The joint authors of this volume are very minute in their description of the various items of interest in their tour. Even the Cunard steamer and the voyage across the Atlantic, are referred to with that fulness of detail which one is accustomed to look for rather in the communications of a friend than in a published narrative of travel. But the description will not be without interest to those who have not met with a similar one elsewhere. The same remark applies to the chapters on "New York," "Education," "Spiritual Communities," &c., &c. There is but little that is new in the work, but it is full of interest. It partakes more of the nature of a guide book or manual than of a record of travel; but while saying this we would not have our readers infer that it is written in the prosaic style which belongs to the guide books. We ascribe to it that character because the information given is methodically arranged and relates chiefly to matters interesting to the tourist.

The Atonement: in its Relations to The Covenant, the Priesthood, the Intercession of our Lord. By the Rev. HUGH MARTIN, M.A. (Nisbet and Co.) Mr. Martin is an acute thinker, making very clever points now and then; but he devotes his ingenuity to buttressing up a very extreme form of the old hard and dry Calvinistic conception of this great subject; and he occasionally shows himself deficient in the sympathy which is essential to successful treatment of it. He says severe things of opponents; and seems satisfied with what now and then verges on a pseudo-mathematical mode of dealing with his great theme. Robertson of Brighton, Maurice, and the rest, come under his lash, which is a lash of Scorpions; and so little doubt does Mr. Martin have that he has mastered the whole mystery, that his passages are now and again a little painful in the absolute satisfaction that seems to speak through his argument. This is easy in a book, where no opponents are heard; but we have some doubts whether, if Mr. Martin had to face his opponents and hear them make their own defences, he would succeed in giving that proof of victory, which the Cambridge fool found in the easy test of supreme temper-keeping. The tendency to harsh words does not lead us to believe that Mr. Martin would preserve calmness in "wordy strife." But, for all that, the book is thoughtful and ingenious, and deserves the attention of theologians.

A Poet Hero. By the Countess VON BOTHMER. (Oassell.) The poet-hero is Carl Theodore Körner, who rose into such prominence in the German uprising against Napoleon, and who was killed in the battle of Rosenberg. He was not only brave, but a man of great personal attractions, added to which was the romantic interest which always attaches to a true poetic spirit. He was a creature of enthusiasm, which was controlled and mastered by honest patriotism. He was the friend of warriors and poets, and his life is, from first to last, attractive and interesting. Countess Von Bothmer has written a story or romance rather than a biography, but she has done it well, having thrown all those with whom Körner was more intimately connected into the

most effective situations. The conversations, of course, are frequently pure fiction, but they are invariably grounded on facts which the biographer has made her own. The early episode of the luckless love of Theodore's aunt Dora is very strikingly told, and so are several incidents in the after part of the volume. Altogether it is a very readable record of one who did much for German freedom, both by sword and pen, and who deserves to be better known in England than he is. The glimpses we get of Goethe and other famous men are very interesting.

Curious Facts of Old Colonial Days. By JAMES BONWICK, F.R.G.S., author of "The Last of the Tasmanians, &c." London: (Sampson Low, Son, and Marston, 1870.) This book answers more to the title than to the preface. It is a collection of Australian and Tasmanian scraps, rather than an argument proving that "some of the greatest political questions agitating the English Society were previously discussed in the 'Australian colonies.'" The author gives us chips and leaves us to manufacture for ourselves. He tells his stories, and leaves us "to trace the development of opinion," and the march of events, in connection with those stirring problems of English politics—Education and "Church Establishments." Mr. Bonwick need hardly have quoted in his preface the remark of the first Bishop of Australia, and he might have spent more care on the arrangement of his materials.

Jessie Grey; or, the Discipline of life. A Canadian Tale. By L. G. (Olyphant and Co.) **Katie Johnstone's Cross.** A Canadian Tale. By A. M. M. (Olyphant and Co.) These little books are very similar in their structure and aim; so similar, indeed, as to suggest a common authorship. They are both "Canadian Tales," and in both alike the circumstance of their being so imparts but little additional interest to the story. The writer or writers have aimed in each case to show that bodily affliction or bereavement, when accepted as the obsequies of the Lord, yield the peaceable fruits of righteousness. We have repeatedly seen this lesson so much more forcibly urged in books designed for juvenile readers, that we see no reason to speak in special commendation of these.

The Gospel According to St. Mark. A New Translation with Critical Notes and Doctrinal Lessons. By JOHN H. GODWIN. (London: Hodder and Stoughton.) This volume, reprinted we believe, from "The Homiletical Analyst," is worthy the reputation of its accomplished author. The translation, though it never can take the place of a text, is suggestive; the critical notes are judicious; and the doctrinal lessons often such as to be valuable to preachers and teachers. Various disputed questions relating to the Gospel are discussed briefly, but with that grasp that indicates a master of his own positions.

Miscellaneous.

ACCIDENT ON CADDER IDRIS.—A gentleman named Colbeck, who was staying at Barmouth, ascended Cadder Idris from that place on the afternoon of Monday last, and in returning fell down one of the precipices. On Tuesday morning a party of gentlemen from the Ship Hotel, Dolgelly, started up the mountain, accompanied by a guide. In going up the steep declivity known as the Fox's Path they spied a man under the crags, and at once proceeded to the spot, and found the unfortunate gentleman mentioned above, where he had remained all night in a perfectly helpless condition. On examination it was found that his leg was broken, and that he had received several other serious injuries about the body. One of the party immediately went for assistance, and several men went up with a litter and carried the unfortunate man down to the Ship Hotel, where he received every attention.

THE WORKMEN'S INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION.—His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales opened the Workmen's International Exhibition at the Agricultural Hall on Saturday afternoon. There was by no means a large attendance of visitors, and with the exception of the Italian and Indian courts, there is not as yet a great deal arranged for display. This shortcoming, however, is merely temporary, and will be remedied before the end of the week. In thanking the committee for the address presented to him, His Royal Highness said:—"In imparting to this exhibition an international character, you have sought to extend the range of good which may result from it, and by inviting friendly competition between our workmen and those of foreign nations, not only to afford a wholesome stimulus to both in the exercise of their various callings, but to contribute as far as you can to that kind of intercourse which must in the end prove the principal security for the peace of the world." The exhibition is to be open for 6d. during the day, and for 2d. during the evening.

THE CENSUS BILL.—The bill to provide for taking the Census of 1871 has been published. After providing that every registrar's sub-district shall be formed into enumerators' divisions according to instructions to be furnished to the local registrars and for the appointment of fit and proper persons as enumerators in each district, it goes on to provide that papers shall be left at every dwelling-house to be filled up by the occupier "with particulars of the name, sex, age, rank, profession or occupation, condition, relation to the head of the family, and birthplace of every person who abode

in the house on the night of Sunday, the 1st of April, 1871, stating whether any were deaf, dumb, or blind." The papers will be collected during the week. The Secretary of State is to obtain, "by such ways and means as shall appear to him best adapted for the purpose," returns of persons travelling, or on shipboard, or not in houses. Those who refuse information or make false returns will be subjected to penalties varying from one to five pounds.

SCENE IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS ON FRIDAY MORNING.—Relative to the long and exciting sitting apropos of the introduction of the ballot into the Education Bill, the London correspondent of the *Leeds Mercury* writes:—"Suddenly, and without the least warning or premonition, the Conservatives, who through the whole of the discussions had striven their utmost to get the measure passed, turned round upon the Ministry, and declared themselves in the character of their open enemies. The cause of the change originated in the clause which enacts that the school boards shall be elected by ballot. As nothing was said by the country gentlemen when Mr. Forster introduced this amendment into the bill, it was taken for granted by everybody that they did not mean seriously to contest the principle. Consequently, when the ballot clause was reached, the House was nearly empty, and the Government whips apprehended no danger. No sooner, however, was the question put from the chair that the clause stand part of the bill, than it became apparent that there was a strong organised opposition, and that the Tories had resolved to make an effort to throw the Government. Speaker after speaker sprang up from the Conservative ranks and denounced the Government scheme as an attempt to introduce the principle of the ballot into English politics by means of a side-wind. They spoke in the tone of men who felt that they had been very much injured, recalled the enthusiasm with which they had heretofore supported the bill, and declared, without reserve or circumlocution, that they would use every form of obstruction should the Ministerial proposition be persevered with. All at once made conscious of the fact that his bill was seriously threatened on the very eve of its passing, Mr. Forster despatched the whips for help. Speakers on both sides of the House came pouring in, and what might be called a 'set' debate sprang up. This went on till about eleven o'clock, when the Conservatives began to fear that they would be defeated. Hastily they despatched a messenger for Mr. Disraeli, who for the first time in recent years drove down to the House in evening costume. There was a hurried consultation on the front Opposition benches; and the result was that Colonel Barttelot moved the adjournment of the debate. This was the commencement of the warfare. Mr. Disraeli supported him, a division was taken, and the country party were signally beaten. Half-past eleven struck as this result was achieved, and from that time on till a quarter past five in the morning the feud between Whig and Tory was carried on, occasionally with much feeling and acrimony. No less than fifteen divisions were taken, all of which were forced on by the Conservatives for the purpose of wearing out the patience of the Government, and forcing the Government to abandon the ballot. True to their pledge, however, they stuck to their point, and showed themselves quite as capable of endurance as their opponents. Cheers, groans, laughter, badinage, and protestations of all kinds prevailed as the hours flew past, and there was no prospect of the fight being terminated. Each division, though numerically strong in favour of the Government, seemed to make the Tories only the more determined, and the irritating contest was maintained till the members were thoroughly exhausted. When daylight appeared, Mr. McCullagh Torrens called attention to the fact, and the gas was turned out. Up till close upon five o'clock the row proceeded, and at length the Opposition gave in. The sitting was almost unprecedented, and has caused a great deal of talk at Westminster. Nothing like it is remembered by even the oldest member of the House."

Gleanings.

During the heavy thunderstorm which visited the metropolis early on Saturday, a number of sheep grazing in the Regent's Park were killed by the lightning.

A tailor's apprentice, who seemed to be pained a good deal with the cross-leg attitude, was asked how he liked tailoring, to which he replied, "Very well, but I believe I shall never be able to stand sitting."

Christine Nilsson receives, it is said, 150*l.* a night at Drury-lane—the largest sum paid to any lady since the days of Jenny Lind. Adelina Patti receives 100*l.* a night at Covent-garden; and Mongini, the tenor, eighty guineas. Mdle. Ilma de Murska is paid upon the same scale.

Lamartine left among his MSS. carefully written memoirs of his mother and of himself. The first life is complete; the autobiography is said to be a noble fragment. These will be published simultaneously in Paris and London.

A Welsh girl, with a limited acquaintance with the English language, after a recent confirmation, informed her friends that the "Bishop had told them they were all to strive to get to Pont Aberglaslyn"—by which locality it is supposed was intended the "life everlasting."

No BETTER OFF.—A Jew pedlar walked into a broker's office and offered pens for sale. "You've come to steal a coat, not to sell pens," said the

broker, as he thrust him out. The following Saturday the pedlar appeared in all the glories of his Sabbath clothes. "Now, sir," he asked, with an air of triumph, "do I look as though I come to steal a coat?" "No," replied the broker, "you look as though you had stolen one."

NOTICE.—All announcements intended for this column must be accompanied by a remittance of half-a-crown in postage-stamps.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

MARRIAGES.

BAIN-FREEMAN.—July 7, at the Abbey-road Chapel, Kilburn, London, by the Rev. T. Arnold, of Doddridge Chapel, Northampton, the Rev. W. J. Bain, minister of Salem Chapel, Wellingborough, to Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Mr. C. Freeman, of Wellingborough.

CREASEY-SOUTHERNWOOD.—July 19, at the Baptist Chapel, Fooks Cray, by the Rev. Geo. Moyle, of Rye-lane, Geo. Creasey, Esq., of Peckham, to Hester Sarah, third daughter of the late James Southernwood, of Hookenden Farm, St. Mary Cray.

DEATHS.

KENNERLEY.—July 13, at Tunbridge Wells, the Rev. T. Kennerley, of Gravesend, aged sixty-eight.

DEXTER.—July 15, at her residence, Claremont House, Fenge-lane, Sarah Ann Dexter, widow of the late J. C. Dexter, Esq., aged seventy.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

(From Wednesday's Gazette.)

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32, for the week ending Wednesday, July 13.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

| | | | |
|-------------------|-------------|---------------------|-------------|
| Notes issued | £35,091,820 | Government Debt | £11,015,100 |
| | | Other Securities .. | 3,984,900 |
| | | Gold Coin & Bullion | 20,091,820 |
| | £35,091,820 | | £35,091,820 |

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

| | | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------|--|-------------|
| Proprietors' Capital | £14,555,000 | Government Securities (inc. dead weight annuity) | £12,493,441 |
| Reserve | 8,355,208 | Other Securities .. | 18,435,031 |
| Public Deposits | 5,938,213 | Notes | 11,187,530 |
| Other Deposits | 18,731,634 | Gold & Silver Coin | 912,973 |
| Seven Day and other Bills | 448,923 | | |
| | £43,026,978 | | £43,026,978 |

July 14, 1870.

GEORGE FORBES, Chief Cashier.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—EPIDEMIC DISEASES.—The alarming increase of deaths from influenza and bronchitis should be a warning to everyone to subdue at once any irregularity tending towards disease. Holloway's Pills should now be in every household to rectify all impure states of the blood, to remedy weakness, and to overcome impaired general health. Nothing can be simpler than the instructions for taking this correcting medicine—nothing more efficient than its cleansing powers, nothing more harmless than its vegetable ingredients. Holloway's is the best physic during the summer season, when decaying fruits and unwholesome vegetables are frequently deranging the bowels and daily exposing thousands, through their negligence in permitting disordered action to the danger of a whole neighbourhood.

Markets.

CORN EXCHANGE, MARK LANE, Monday, July 18.
We had a small supply of English wheat and moderate arrivals from abroad. The declaration of war on the Continent has caused great excitement in the trade, and a general rise in all articles. English wheat sold at an advance of 5*s.* to 6*s.* from the prices of Monday last. Foreign wheat met a steady demand, the advance being 6*s.* to 8*s.* per qr. Flour was 5*s.* per sack and 3*s.* per bbl. dearer. The top price of town flour was raised to 54*s.* per sack. Beans and peas were each 2*s.* per qr. dearer. Barley is quoted 2*s.* to 3*s.* per qr. higher. Indian corn made 2*s.* per qr. above last week's rates. Arrivals of oats are liberal. They met an active demand at an improvement of 2*s.* to 3*s.* since this day week. Cargoes on the coast and on passage are held at an advance of 5*s.* per qr. for wheat, and 2*s.* on maize and Indian Corn.

CURRENT PRICES.

| | Per Qr. | | Per Qr. |
|--------------------------------|---------|---------------------|----------|
| WHEAT— | s. d. | FRSE— | s. d. |
| Essex and Kent, red, old | — to — | Gray | 40 to 42 |
| Ditto new | 52 56 | Maple | 44 45 |
| White, old | — | White | 40 44 |
| " new | 43 40 | Boilers | 40 44 |
| Foreign red | 51 54 | Foreign, boilers .. | 40 43 |
| " white | 54 56 | RYE | 36 38 |
| BARLEY— | | OATS— | |
| English malting .. | 32 38 | English feed | 25 31 |
| Chevalier | 42 45 | " potato | 29 35 |
| Distilling | 36 40 | Scotch feed | — |
| Foreign | 37 42 | " potato | — |
| MALT— | | Irish black | 31 26 |
| Pale | — | " white | 23 26 |
| Chevalier | — | Foreign feed | 22 27 |
| Brown | 49 56 | | |
| BEANS— | | FLOUR— | |
| Ticks | 43 46 | Town made | 46 50 |
| Harrow | 44 49 | Country Marks .. | 41 42 |
| Small | — | Norfolk & Suffolk | 38 39 |
| Egyptian | 41 43 | | |

METROPOLITAN CATTLE MARKET, Monday, July 18.
—The total imports of foreign stock into London last week amounted to 8,585 head. In the corresponding week in 1869 we received 14,160; in 1868, 10,734; in 1867, 8,894; and in 1866, 17,304 head. There were large arrivals of foreign stock on sale here to-day, but the supplies from our own grazing districts fell off considerably. The general quality of the beasts on sale was inferior; but choice beef, being scarce, commanded very full prices. The prime animals on offer have sold at very full currencies, 5*s.* 8*d.* per 8lbs. being occasionally obtained. From Lincolnshire, Leicestershire, and Northamptonshire we received 1,200 shorthorns, &c.; from other parts of England 320 of various breeds; and from Scotland, 22 Friesians and crosses. The number of sheep in the pens was fully up to the average. There was less activity in the demand for mutton, and prices have with difficulty been maintained. The top quotation for Southdowns and half-breeds was 5*s.* 4*d.* to 5*s.* 6*d.* per 8lbs. Lambs have been met at 6*s.* 4*d.* to 6*s.* 8*d.* per 8lbs. The calf trade was quiet, and there has not been much inquiry for pigs.

Per 8lbs. to sink the Offal.

| | s. d. | | s. d. |
|----------------------------------|-------|------------------------------|---------|
| Inf. coarse beasts 3 to 3 10 | 10 | Prime Southdowns 5 4 to 5 6 | 6 |
| Second quality 4 0 4 6 | 6 | Lambs | 6 4 6 5 |
| Prime large oxen 4 8 5 2 | 2 | Lge. coarse calves 3 10 4 10 | 10 |
| Prime 50 <i>lts.</i> &c. 5 4 5 6 | 6 | Prime small | 5 0 5 6 |
| Coarse inf. sheep 3 4 3 8 | 8 | Large hogs | 4 8 5 4 |
| Second quality 3 10 4 6 | 6 | Neatam. porkers 5 4 5 6 | 6 |
| Pr. coarse woolled 4 8 5 2 | 2 | | |

Stuckling calves, 22*s.* to 26*s.*, and quarter-old store pigs, 22*s.* to 26*s.*, each.

METROPOLITAN MEAT MARKET, Monday, July 18.—Supplies of meat have been limited. The trade has been active, and prices have had an upward tendency.

| Per 8lbs. by the carcase. | | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|-------|-------|
| s. d. | s. d. | s. d. | s. d. |
| Inferior beef . . . 3 4 to 3 6 | Inf. mutton . . . 3 10 4 0 | | |
| Middling ditto . . . 3 8 4 0 | Middling ditto . . . 4 0 4 4 | | |
| Prime large do. . . 4 8 4 10 | Prime ditto . . . 4 8 5 0 | | |
| Do. small do. . . 4 10 5 0 | Veal . . . 4 4 5 0 | | |
| Large Pork . . . 3 8 4 0 | Lamb . . . 5 8 6 0 | | |
| Small pork . . . 3 0 5 4 | | | |

PROVISIONS, Monday, July 18.—The arrivals last week from Ireland were 1,651 firkins butter, and 2,316 bales bacon; and from foreign ports 24,756 packages butter, and 2,316 bales bacon. In the Irish butter market but a limited business transacted last week: the dealers not willing to pay the high prices asked in the Irish markets. Foreign met a slow sale, and prices were in favour of buyers, best Dutch 112s. to 114s. The bacon market ruled firm, and influenced by the warlike state of affairs, prices at the close of the week advanced 2s. per cwt. Best Waterford, 75s. free on board. Hamburg meat is now held for a further advance.

BOROUGH HOP MARKET, Monday, July 18.—Our market remains quiet at late rates for English of last growth, but all other descriptions rule easier. Reports from our principal districts are satisfactory on the whole. Some gardens do not appear to be making much progress, but there is almost a total absence of vermin everywhere, and the general impression seems to be that the coming crop will be an abundant one. European accounts are still very favourable as to the state of the plant and the future crop. Latest advice from New York show more life in the Hop market, with a slight improvement in values. The prospects of the coming crop are very unfavourable. Wisconsin and other important districts suffering considerable damage from the ravages of the cutworms and other vermin. Mid and East Kent, 7l. 0s., 9l. 0s. to 13l. 12s.; Weald, 6l. 0s., 7l. 0s., to 8l. 0s.; Sussex, 6l. 12s., 6l. 0s., to 6l. 13s.; Bavarians, 6l. 6s., 7l. 7s., to 9l. 0s.; French, 6l. 0s., 5l. 15s., to 6l. 10s.; Americans, 4l. 5s., 5l. 5s., to 6l. 0s.; Yearlings, 1l. 10s., 2l. 10s., to 3l. 10s.

SEED, Monday, July 18.—All sorts of clover seed were held with firmness, and prices were nominally unaltered. Some inquiry continues to be made for good foreign qualities, but holders demand too much money for the views of buyers. English trefoil was taken off steadily at quite as high rates, from a fear of the new being discoloured by the recent rains. Canaryseed remains very firm, and fine English qualities bring high rates. White mustardecseed was fully as high. Fine English rapeseed was held very high.

WOOL, Monday, July 18.—The outbreak of war on the continent has had a depressing influence upon the wool trade. French and German buyers forsake the market, and, as in the case of colonial wool, prices here had a downward tendency. On Friday last the wool sales rooms were thinly attended, and a decline of 1d. to 1½d. per lb. took place. Prices of English wools are also lower.

OIL, Monday, July 18.—There has been only a slow demand for linseed oil, and there has not been much demand for Rape; other oils have been in limited request.

TALLOW, Monday, July 18.—The market has been firm. T.C., on the spot, 45s. 6d. per cwt. Town Tallow 41s. 9d. net cash.

COAL, Monday, July 18.—Factors succeeded in realising an advance on all coal on last day's rates. Hettons, 17s.; Hettons South, 17s. 9d.; Hettons Lyons, 15s. 6d.; Hettons Russell, 16s.; Haswell, 18s.; Hartlepool original, 18s.; Hartlepool East, 17s. 6d.; Hartlepool South, 17s. 3d.; Hough Hall, 17s.; Kelloe, 16s. 8d.; Kelloe South, 17s.; Eden Main, 16s. Ships fresh arrived, 39; ships left from last day, 3; total, 41. Ships at sea, 40.

Advertisements.

MISS FLETCHER, of 13, Powis-square, Brighton, RECEIVES a limited number of BOYS, ages from 8 to 13. A resident Tutor instructs in Latin and Arithmetic. The year is divided into Three Terms.

PROFESSOR TODHUNTER, M.A., of Cheshunt College, with suitable assistance, conducts the EDUCATION of a small number of Pupils. The premises have been built for the purpose in a very healthy situation. Terms inclusive.—Holt House, Cheshunt, N.

MILFORD HAVEN, SOUTH WALES.—EDUCATION for YOUNG GENTLEMEN.—The Rev. JOHN EVANS, B.A., of the London University, will have VACANCIES for THREE BOARDERS after the MID-SUMMER HOLIDAYS.—Terms on application. Dates will be resumed July 23, 1870.

EDUCATION on the CONTINENT.—A married ENGLISHMAN, Professor in a Public Institution abroad, RECEIVES BOYS into his house. They have excellent opportunities for acquiring a thorough knowledge of French and German.—G. M. H., Poste Restante, Neuchâtel, Suisse.

On SUNDAY EVENING NEXT, 24th inst.,

ALESSANDRO GAVAZZI, the Italian Reformer, will PREACH at the KING'S WEIGH HOUSE CHAPEL, 113H-STREET HILL. Service to commence at 6.30. Some reference will be made to the now declared doctrine of the Pope's Infallibility.

NEW CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, MARSH-STREET, WALTHAMSTOW.

The MEMORIAL STONE of the above Church will be LAID on WEDNESDAY, July 27, 1870, by JAMES SPICER, Esq., J.P., at 3 p.m.

Cold Collation will be provided in an adjoining marquee. Tickets, 3s. 6d. each. Various Ministers and Gentlemen will take part in the proceedings. Trains leave Fenchurch-street at 2.10; and Shoreditch at 12, 1.20, and 2.20. The nearest station is Hoe street.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC.—SAND and the SUEZ CANAL, by Profos or Pepper. Musical Entertainment, by George Buckland, Esq., THE HEART OF STONE, with Spectral Scenes. The American Organ daily. And other attract one, all for One Shilling. THE GREAT CITY, at half-past One. SUEZ CANAL, at half-past Two and quarter to Eight. HEART OF STONE, at Four and Nine. Open 12 to 5 and 7 to 10.

STROUD LADIES' COLLEGE, BEECHES-GREEN, STROUD, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

Principals, The Misses HOWARD. Resident Foreign Governesses. Attendant Professors.

Reports monthly. Test Examinations every term. The Misses Howard offer to the Daughters of Gentlemen an advanced and liberal education, with all the privacy and refinements of home. The house is large, airy, and well situated.

Prospectus, with references and copies of Examination Papers, on application.

AUTUMN TERM will commence SEPTEMBER 22.

MR. STREETER (Successor to

HANCOCK and CO., Limited),

GOLDSMITH and JEWELLER,

WATCH and CLOCK-MAKER

TO the ROYAL FAMILY,

37, CONDUIT-STREET,

BOND-STREET, LONDON, W.,

INTRODUCER of the CELEBRATED

18-CARAT GOLD JEWELLERY, also

WATCHES and CLOCKS,

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BRACELETS, STRAP, 18-CARAT £5 0

BRACELETS, ETRUSCAN, „ £7 0

BRACELETS, NINEVEH, „ £10 0

BRACELETS, SAXON, „ £15 0

BROOCHES, ETRUSCAN, „ £2 10

BROOCHES, NINEVEH, „ £3 0

BROOCHES, SAXON, „ £4 0

BROOCHES, EGYPTIAN, „ £5 0

CHAINS, PRINCESS, „ £2 0

CHAINS, CYLINDER, „ £3 0

CHAINS, CURB, „ £4 0

CHAINS, CABLE, „ £5 0

EARRINGS, ETRUSCAN, „ £1 10

EARRINGS, SAXON, „ £2 5

EARRINGS, EGYPTIAN, „ £3 5

EARRINGS, NINEVEH, „ £4 10

LOCKETS, ENGRAVED, „ £1 0

LOCKETS, CORDED, „ £2 10

LOCKETS, CROSS, „ £4 0

GOLD WATCHES, LADIES', £8 8

GOLD WATCHES, „ £10 10

GOLD WATCHES, ½-PLATE, £15 15

GOLD WATCHES (HUNTING), £11 11

GOLD WATCHES, ¾-PLATE, £16 16

GOLD WATCHES, „ £20 0

GOLD WATCHES, KEYLESS £15 10

GOLD WATCHES, „ £22 0

GOLD WATCHES (HUNTING), £18 18

CLOCKS, CARRIAGE, £5 0

CLOCKS, „ (STRIKING), £7 7

CLOCKS, „ „ (ON GONG), £12 12

CLOCKS, LIBRARY (MARBLE), £4 0

CLOCKS, „ „ £10 12

CLOCKS, „ „ £14 0

CLOCKS, „ (ORMOLU), £10 0

CLOCKS, „ „ £15 0

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A few VACANCIES at MIDSUMMER.

PERPETUAL INVESTMENT AND BUILDING SOCIETY.

The NINETEENTH ANNUAL MEETING of this Society was held on WEDNESDAY, July 6, at Badley's Hotel, New Bridge-street. The chair was taken by R. J. MILLAR, Esq. Mr. J. E. TRESIDDER, the Secretary, read the annual report, as follows, also the cash statement and balance-sheet:—

"The Directors have to report that, in consequence of the depressed condition of House Property, they have deemed it wise to decline much of the loan business that has been offered as security, so that the business done has been considerably less than that of the preceding year.

"The Cash Statement and Balance-sheet show the extent of the Society's operations, and exhibit the steadily increasing amount invested upon the Society's Shares.

SHARES.

"ONE THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED AND FOUR New Shares have been issued.

REALISED SHARES.

"The sum of 15,467. 16s. 8d. has been received for the purchase of Realised Shares, the same bearing interest after the rate of 4 per cent. per annum, payable half-yearly.

"The sum of 23,920. 10s. 6d., including interest, has been withdrawn by Shareholders, and the amount now invested in this department, inclusive of Capitalised Interest, is 103,330. 10s. 7d.

SUBSCRIPTION SHARES.

"The sum of 28,640. 16s. 5d. has been received upon this class of Shares, either as periodical subscriptions, or as pre-payments.

"The sum of 8,965. 17s. 10d. has been repaid to Shareholders for Shares withdrawn, inclusive of interest.

The sum of 35,250. 6s. 3d., inclusive of Interest and Bonuses, has been paid to Shareholders for Shares matured during the year.

"The Balance now invested upon Subscription Shares is 160,770. 11s. 4d., which includes 15,574. 17s. 8d. for interest capitalised, and 12,316. 2s. 9d. for Bonuses.

BONUS UPON SHARES.

"The number of participant Shareholders in the Bonus is greater than in any preceding year, while the regulations adopted to allow Shareholders to withdraw a portion of the Bonus before the expiration of term of Share has necessarily reduced the aggregate amount of divisible profit.

"The sum of 1,796. 9s. 4d., being equal to a Bonus of two per cent., has been apportioned amongst the holders of Subscription shares, in addition to the interest provided for under the Tables.

DEPOSITS.

The sum of 9,625. 7s. 10d. has been received on Deposit at 3 per cent. interest; and the Balance now remaining, including interest, to the credit of Depositors, is 18,871. 8s. 6d.

ADVANCES.

"The sum of 26,920. 2s. 7d. has been advanced upon the mortgage of Freehold, Copyhold, and Leasehold Securities, 7,720. 10s. has been lent to Shareholders upon the security of their Shares, making the total advances of the year 34,640. 12s. 7d.

"The sum of 15,081. 17s. 10d. has been received for interest on Loans during the year.

"The Balance now remaining upon the Mortgage of Properties is 203,968. 11s. 10d., and as Loans upon the Society's Shares, 12,682. 15s. 3d., making an aggregate of 216,651. 7s. 1d.

"The Directors desire to urge upon the Members to extend the advantages of this department by the acquisition of Property, either for their own occupation, or for the purpose of profitable investment.

FREEHOLD ESTATES.

"The Purchase of the Benhill Estate has been completed during the year.

"The portions of the Dulwich Estate leased during the year have produced a good profit to the Society.

"The Directors have not sold any portions of the Freehold Estates, considering it conducive to the interests of the Shareholders not to dispose of the same for the present.

"The Directors with much regret have to report the decease of their late colleague, Mr. John Gover, who, from the commencement of the Society, discharged the onerous duties of Chairman to the Board, also of Trustee.

"The Directors, in conformity with the Society's Rules, elected Mr. Robert James Millar their Chairman, Mr. John Thompson, a Trustee, and Mr. Benjamin Evans, of Acro House, Brixton, a Director, the latter holding office till this meeting, when Mr. Gover would have retired by rotation.

"The Books, Vouchers, and Securities have been examined by the Auditors, and certified as correct in their Report appended to the Balance-sheet."

The CHAIRMAN in moving the adoption of the report, said:—

"I can well imagine that on your first perusal of the report there may be some degree of disappointment at the results of the year's business now submitted to you. A diminished bonus is not likely to be so acceptable as an increase; but it must be taken as an evidence that the directors came before you with a faithful statement, and not one which cannot be maintained. The report states that "the sum of 26,920. 2s. 7d. has been advanced upon the mortgage of freehold, copyhold, and leasehold securities"; but we have received proposals during the year for loans to the extent of 91,000. and rejected to the extent which appears by comparison of the figures. This will show that your directors are not so anxious to do a large as a safe business. Of course, if we had accepted a larger portion of the 91,000. our results would show better, but it would have met us at a future day if the securities had to be realised. I think that this explanation of the decrease in the amount of business done during the year will be satisfactory to the members that it does not show any want of confidence in the society by the public. The progress of the society has been most satisfactory, as is evident by the bonuses paid to shareholders. The amount paid during the first ten years was 4,824. 4s.; from eleven to fifteen years, 14,648. 4s.; and during the last four years, 17,392. One cause of the decrease in the bonus has arisen from the much larger proportion of the capital of the society being now invested upon shares instead of deposits. This is seen from the following statistics:—Amount invested upon subscription shares during the first ten years was 165,300. 10s.; during the last nine years, 248,830. 10s.; upon realised shares during the first ten years, 163,504. 10s.; during the last nine years, 176,971. 10s.; whilst upon deposit the amount received during the first ten years was 185,714. 10s.; and during the last nine years was 108,000. 10s. Thus it will be seen that with the growing years of the institution the confidence of the public has increased, and the investments are now made upon shares, which carry a larger interest, instead of deposits at 3 per cent., which of course much interferes with the accumulation of profits, and also causes a larger number of participants to share in the surplus profits than heretofore. The total advances made has been 806,000. 10s., whilst the total income from all sources has been 2,187,768. 10s. I hope no gentleman will leave this room under the idea that there is any decline in the public estimation of the society. The decline of business has arisen from the depressed state of trade, and we have confidence of increasing prosperity.

Mr. C. G. SEARLE, in seconding the adoption of the Report, said that whilst the Society hold its own, and gives a bonus to its Shareholders, it is maintaining its credit, and that in the depressed state of trade generally, and business of Building Societies in particular, there can be no hesitation in the cordial adoption of the Report.

Mr. HUDSON then desired to be furnished with certain details as to the items given in the Report and Balance-sheet, also as to the causes of the reduction of the bonus.

The SECRETARY replied to the questions asked evidently to the satisfaction of the members, and the adoption of the Report was carried unanimously.

The retiring Directors—Messrs. Joseph Burgess, John Robert Burton, and Benjamin Evans—were then duly elected, and Mr. William Henry Millar was re-elected as an Auditor.

Upon the motion of Messrs. Lindsey, Dr. Ferguson, Cave, Marsh, Searle, and Burton, votes of thanks were passed to the Directors, Auditors, Secretary, and other officers, and acknowledged.

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